UNITED NATIONS **S**

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S/1999/887
17 August 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from Zivadin Jovanovic, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, containing the views and positions of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the current situation regarding the implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the military technical agreement (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

99-23822 (E) 170899

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Annex

Letter dated 16 August 1999 from the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia addressed to the President of the Security Council

I submit the enclosed document with the official assessments and positions of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia concerning the disturbing situation in the Serbian province of Kosovo and Metohija, which is the result of daily criminal acts of the so-called "KLA". These include daily killings, abductions, intimidation and a campaign of ethnic cleansing whose victims are Serbs, Montenegrins, Romanies, Muslims, Goranies, Turks and the non-Albanian population in general. Burning and destruction of houses, churches and historic monuments of Serbs and illegal violent occupation of private property continues. All of this is taking place in the presence of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and KFOR under the auspices of the United Nations, which is in contravention of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the military-technical agreement, and seriously damages the credibility of the United Nations and the Security Council itself.

The main causes of this very grave situation lie in the tolerant attitude towards the illegitimate and unacceptable behaviour and goals of the so-called "KLA", other criminal and bandit groups and, especially, in the delay of their disarmament.

I appeal to you to urgently convene a meeting of the Security Council in which this question will be considered, with the objective of undertaking the necessary steps and measures, in accordance with the responsibilities of the Security Council, so that the present negative and extremely disturbing trends will be energetically terminated and that the implementation of the obligations of UNMIK and KFOR, as defined by the Security Council in its resolution 1244 (1999), and the military-technical agreement will be efficiently secured.

I believe that, in the interest of objectivity and identifying the real causes of extremely serious security and humanitarian problems, the enclosed document, with facts and positions of my Government, will be given appropriate consideration.

(Signed) Zivadin JOVANOVIĆ

Enclosure

Implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the military-technical agreement: the current situation and positions of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

The Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, recalling its communications to the Security Council and the Secretary-General, as well as to the Heads of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and KFOR and, in particular, the positions expressed in its memorandum of 27 July 1999 (S/1999/828, annex) relating to the current situation in the Serbian province of Kosovo and Metohija (hereinafter, the Province), has the honour to draw attention to the following facts and views:

1. Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) has unequivocally reaffirmed the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and, accordingly, defined the mandates and the terms of reference of UNMIK and KFOR.

By accepting the Ahtisaari-Chernomyrdin paper and by its consistent implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the military-technical agreement, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has confirmed its commitment to a peaceful solution for the Province on the basis of an autonomy guaranteeing full equality of citizens and national communities within the framework of the constitutional and legal systems of the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

2. Proceeding from the guarantees of the sovereignty and territorial unity of the Federal Republic of yugoslavia, as well as security guarantees for all citizens in the Province, proceeding also from the inadmissibility of a security gap and from guarantees of the security and inviolability of international borders and an understanding regarding the return of a contingent of the Yugoslav Army and of police forces to the Province, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expects that KFOR will in practice fulfil all its obligations, and in particular that it will guarantee the physical safety of citizens and their property, public order and peace.

3. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is deeply dissatisfied with, and seriously concerned over, many facts unambiguously showing that KFOR and UNMIK have not complied with their fundamental obligations as established in Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the military-technical agreement. The facts that follow bear witness to it. In the two months of KFOR and UNMIK taking responsibility for the safety of citizens and their property, by a systematic campaign of ethnic cleansing more than 200,000 Serbs, Montenegrins and other non-Albanians have been expelled from the Province. In those two months, the terrorists have killed over 200 and wounded more than 400 civilians, women, children and elderly people, mostly Serbs and other non-Albanian residents. About 40,000 private homes and dwellings shave been looted, demolished or burned, while 40 Serbian churches and medieval monasteries, many of which have been declared a part of European cultural heritage, have been burned down or

demolished. As many as 80,000 Serbs and other non-Albanian citizens have been intimidated and forced to leave their jobs. Responsibility for that lies with the evidently tolerant attitude of both KFOR and UNMIK towards the terrorist so-called "KLA" and criminal gangs being allowed to cross over illegally into the Province.

The obligation by the so-called "KLA" and other armed Albanian gangs and individuals to disarm has not been carried out, nor does the past attitude by KFOR regarding this vitally important obligation for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) give confidence that it will be strictly and effectively abided by.

Statements made by senior KFOR and UNMIK officials on alleged success in the demilitarization of the so-called "KLA" have been merely used as a cover for continuing the process of stockpiling and concealing huge quantities of weapons, from and via the territory of Albania, and partly from the territory of Macedonia as well. Ever since KFOR became responsible for the safety of citizens and their property, the Province has turned into a region of the largest build-up of uncontrolled, illegal weapons, terrorists, the drug mafia and criminal gangs in general, in contradiction of the main intent and basic goals of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the military-technical agreement, thus posing a wider threat.

4. The assertions by KFOR, made in the monthly report of 10 August 1999 to the Security Council (S/1999/868), that the Serb exodus has slowed down as a result of KFOR efforts to ensure a safe environment, as well as the statements by KFOR and UNMIK officials to that effect, do not correspond to facts on the ground and divert attention from the heart of the matter. Indeed, the truth is that during the two months that KFOR and UNMIK have been deployed, nearly 200,000 Serbs and Montenegrins have been forcibly expelled from the Province in the face of "KLA" terrorism, so that only a small number of non-Albanians now remain in that part of Serbia. Of the 30,000 indigenous Serb and Montenegrin residents of Pristina before KFOR arrived, there are currently about 2,000, while the others were intimidated into departing. In the same period, more than 100,000 Albanians, citizens of Albania, among them a large number of criminals, plunderers, thugs, even members of the regular military forces of Albania, have entered and reside illegally in the Province with the permission of KFOR and UNMIK.

5. While UNMIK and KFOR, on the one hand, do not comply with their essential obligations under Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the military-technical agreement regarding personal safety and property security guarantees in respect of demilitarization of the so-called "KLA", and while overall they demonstrate an unacceptably tolerant attitude towards terrorists, bandits and proponents of violence, on the other hand, they seek to revise and enlarge in practice their mandate by ignoring the principle of sovereignty and territorial integrity, by showing disrespect for Yugoslav and Serbian laws and by delaying the implementation of their obligations to protect the rights and security of Serbs, Montenegrins, Romanies, Muslims, the inhabitants of Gora, Turks and non-Albanians in general.

6. Bearing in mind the aforementioned, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia declares that it does not recognize, nor will it recognize, any changes, decisions or measures that are contrary to the provisions and purposes of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), the Ahtisaari-Chernomyrdin paper and the military-technical agreement from Kumanovo. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia retains the continuity of its sovereign rights in the Province as an integral part of its territory, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Final Act and the universal principles of contemporary international law. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia considers the guarantees of sovereignty and territorial integrity, as contained in resolution 1244 (1999), the Ahtisaari-Chernomyrdin paper and the military-technical agreement, final and unalterable.

7. For the reasons stated above, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expects the Security Council to consider urgently the presented problems and to take appropriate steps to ensure full and consistent implementation of resolution 1244 (1999), in particular:

(a) To ensure full respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty fo the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as unequivocally provided for under Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) in operative paragraphs 10 and 11, annex 1 and annex 2, paragraph 8;

(b) To ensure respect for, and the application of, Yugoslav and Serbian laws and regulations. This implies the full respect of the unified legal, economic, financial (the dinar as the sole legal tender), tax, visa and passport systems and observance of the laws of the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that are in force, in particular those relating to property, legal and status and administrative matters, registry of citizens and issuance of personal identification documents, passports and other identity papers. Arbitrary decisions and selectivity in applying the legislation are not founded on resolution 1244 (1999) and constitute a violation of the principle of sovereignty and territorial integrity;

(c) To energetically put an end to violence against, and the ethnic cleansing of, Serbs, Montenegrins and other non-Albanians, to cease the tolerant attitude towards the terrorist so-called "KLA", to establish the security of citizens and property and public order and peace in the Province and to conduct an effective investigation into the crimes committed, leading to the tracking down and arrest of all the perpetrators and those giving orders to them;

(d) To disarm immediately and effectively the terrorists of the so-called "KLA", as required by operative paragraphs 9 (b) and 15 of resolution 1244 (1999), and to trace the secret arms depots and cut off any further infiltration of illegal weapons;

(e) To ensure the full respect and inviolability of the state borders of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia with Albania and Macedonia in their parts towards the Province and to prevent all illegal entries of non-residents of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

(f) To deploy, without delay, contingents of the Yugoslav Army and police, both at the border crossings and inside the Province, in accordance with

operative paragraphs 9 (g) and 4 annex 2, paragraph 6, of resolution 1244 (1999) and the military-technical agreement;

(g) To ensure full safety of Yugoslav customs and other officers, including their protection at work, and effective and unhampered operation of customs, visa and passport services, as well as immigration, anti-crime, sanitary, phytopathological and veterinary control;

(h) To expel all non-residents of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia who, with the permission of KFOR, have illegally entered the Province as part of the sovereign territory of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in violation of resolution 1244 (1999) and the military-technical agreement and in breach of Yugoslav and international laws, rules and practices. In particular, we demand an immediate expulsion of the thugs and plunderers from Albania responsible for organized international crime, the drug mafia, arms smuggling, trade in people, the prostitution racket and other criminal gangs;

(i) To apply the unified visa regime and international agreements of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, implying the observance of the normal procedure under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations when foreign officials visit a part of the sovereign territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Province included; KFOR and UNMIK are not authorized to arrange or to allow the visits of foreign State representatives, with the exclusion of the Yugoslav authorities, since the Province is a part of the sovereign territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which is exclusively responsible for international contacts and visits. Any other behaviour represents a gross violation of the substance of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), international law and practice, and is not acceptable;

(j) To respect the democratic procedure and to cooperate in the process of the establishment of interim bodies of self-government with the competent authorities. UNMIK and KFOR are not authorized to impose arbitrarily, above and against the will of citizens belonging to individual ethnic communities, members of interim bodies (councils). Only legitimate representatives of national communities may sit on those bodies;

(k) To prevent the establishment of "offices", "bureaus", etc. of other States in the Province without the prior consent of the competent authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

(l) To provide full protection of human rights and to ensure and guarantee conditions for the safe return of all refugees and displaced Serbs, Montenegrins, Romanies, Muslims, inhabitants of Gora and other victims of an organized campaign of ethnic cleansing conducted by the terrorist so-called "KLA";

(m) To enable the reopening and unimpeded operation of the Serbian-language state and private media;

(n) To provide the protection of Serbian cultural, historic and religious monuments in the Province from the daily vandalizing by the terrorists of the so-called "KLA";

(o) KFOR and UNMIK have no right to declare, let alone treat, the indigenous Serbs and Montenegrins as a "national minority" in their own State, as was done in the monthly report to the Security Council on the KFOR operations (S/1999/868). This is incompatible with international standards, especially the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, which are related to States as subjects of international law and not to provinces and autonomies as administrative units within sovereign States;

(p) To ensure the inviolability of private property, to give back, without any further delay, all property acquired by violence and to restore in its entirety to its former state all movable and immovable property - flats, houses, companies and public institutions - and all other conditions and relationships that result from violence and illegal conduct of individuals and groups;

(q) To respect and protect the ownership rights of the State of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia over all movables and immovables and to respect and protect the status of public enterprises and systems, notably the EPC electricity company, PTT, Yugoslav Railways and others;

(r) To prevent, by resolute measures, all attempts at setting up illegal, parallel institutions, services, illegal police, organs and bodies, etc;

(s) To ensure full freedom of movement and access, as well as security, for humanitarian and other non-governmental organizations;

(t) To ensure unhindered participation of Yugoslav experts and forensic specialists in the investigation of criminal acts, especially terrorist assaults, murders and abductions, and to cooperate with the Yugoslav authorities, both in the elucidation of these crimes and the efforts to combat all forms of international organized crime;

(u) To halt urgently all steps and measures taken against the undertakings and without the participation of the competent Yugoslav authorities concerning the establishment of public and other services and the inadmissible favouring of Albanians over other ethnic communities.

8. Taking into account the fact that the Council is primarily responsible for the implementation of its resolution 1244 (1999), the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia urges the Council to take effective and resolute measures to implement its resolution 1244 (1999) and related documents fully and consistently in the interest of normalizing the overall situation and creating conditions for the start of a political process of establishing the parameters of the autonomy.

The Yugoslav Government reiterates that the conclusion of a comprehensive agreement between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as the host country, and the United Nations is a necessary prerequisite for cooperation between the Yugoslav authorities and the international civil and security presences (UNMIK and KFOR) mandated by the United Nations, as well as for a successful implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), and it calls on the Secretary-General to negotiate and sign such an agreement.

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17 August 1999

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LETTER DATED 17 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Albania, Pandeli Majko, recently travelled to Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, without prior notification to the Yugoslav authorities or the granting of a Yugoslav visa. He arrived in an official automobile and was escorted by the Albanian security service, in an act of arrant violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. His address to local residents, whom he called "Albanian citizens", and his statement that Kosovo and Metohija would become part of "Greater Albania", which, he said, was "only a question of time" were particularly provocative.

This illegal act and irresponsible statement by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Albania were only the latest manifestations of the long-lasting territorial aspiration of the Republic of Albania towards Kosovo and Metohija, a part of the sovereign Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, exercised in open disregard for the relevant international documents and the norms of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, the Helsinki Final Act and Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), which reaffirms the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in express terms. A glaring example of that expansionist policy of the Republic of Albania was the recognition, the only one in the world, of the phantom "Republic of Kosovo" in 1991, as a stepping stone in the creation of a "Greater Albania".

In lodging the strongest protest over the enabling by KFOR and UNMIK of the latest provocation, I take the opportunity to recall that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has, on a number of occasions, warned the Security Council and both international presences in Kosovo and Metohija, as well as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Bernard Kouchner, specifically, of the intentions of "KLA" terrorists to secede, in collusion with the Albanian leadership and some Western countries, and adjoin this Serbian province to the Republic of Albania, contrary to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

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18 August 1999
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LETTER DATED 17 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 15 August 1999 addressed to you by Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan, on the occasion of the first anniversary of the United States attack on the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical factory in the Sudan, and to request you to bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Elfatih ERWA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

99-23964 (E) 190899 190899

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Annex

Letter dated 15 August 1999 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan addressed to the President of the Security Council

One full year has passed since my country was subjected to an unjust and tyrannical attack by the United States of America. This attack destroyed the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical factory, depriving the country of an important source of medicines and paralysing a significant economic facility that played a prominent part in the economic development of our country and of other countries in the region. This facility had been substantially financed by the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) bank for the Preferential Trade Area.

Ever since my Government first wrote to you on this matter, on 21 August 1998, we have steadily maintained that the allegations used by the United States in order to justify the bombing of the factory were completely untrue, unsupported by any material evidence and based on inaccurate intelligence. I should like to point out to the distinguished members of the Council that, in the last 12 months, the United States has failed to present to the Council one single piece of evidence in support of its allegations. It has, rather, deliberately prevaricated and has made every attempt to neutralize the Sudan's complaint.

Here, I should like to refer to the United States false claim that it would, through bilateral channels, attempt to reach a settlement with the Government of my country. This claim has received praise and encouragement from several Security Council members. I must stress yet again that the bilateral negotiations on this issue in which the United States claims to be involved do not exist. In every contact between the two parties, the United States has persistently and deliberately avoided any discussion of the matter. Such contacts have been restricted to bilateral concerns completely unrelated to the issue.

My country has been patient for one year, in the course of which it has continued to keep the Security Council regularly informed of information and facts, supplied by the United States authorities themselves, that confirm the lack of substance to the United States allegations, and that it erred in carrying out the criminal attack on my country. The enormity of that tyrannical attack has become clear to all.

Council members are reminded that the United States Department of Justice has ruled that the Office of Foreign Assets Control must unfreeze the assets belonging to the owner of the Al-Shifa factory, and has informed his lawyers to this effect. The ruling was made on the very day that the owner had asked the United States of America to present its defence in the civil case that he had brought against it.

This ruling confirms beyond doubt the representations consistently made to the Security Council by the Sudan, namely, that the pretexts put forward by the United States of America in order to justify its bombing of the factory were completely fictitious and unsupported by any material evidence, since they were

based on erroneous intelligence reports. United States allegations as to Osama Bin Laden's ownership of the factory, and with regard to what the factory was producing, were completely untrue. The United States of America does not possess any evidence to support these allegations.

My country maintains its unwavering demand for a fact-finding mission to investigate the United States allegations and to put the Security Council in possession of the simple facts about the factory. These have been established by a number of independent local and foreign scientific and media bodies. All those bodies have established beyond doubt that the allegations made by the United States are completely invalid, that the factory was producing medicines for human and veterinary use, and that it was not technically capable of producing any chemical or internationally proscribed materials.

The Government of the Sudan is still waiting for the Security Council to assume its duties and responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations, and to decide the Sudan's complaint in a manner that will guarantee its enjoyment of its rights under the Charter of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mustafa Osman ISMAIL
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan

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LETTER DATED 18 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit the text of the statement made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on 17 August 1999 concerning the developing situation in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) G. M. GATILOV
First Deputy Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation to the
United Nations

99-23952 (E) 180899 180899

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Annex

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

In connection with the extremely dangerous developments in the situation in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation deems it necessary to make the following statement. In Moscow, we are disturbed that the process of disarming the Kosovo rebels is moving extremely slowly. There is every reason to believe that a significant part of the weapons subject to surrender by day 60 of the demilitarization process (20 August) will be concealed. There is a risk that even the agreement on the complete disarmament of the Albanian extremists in Kosovo within 90 days will not be fulfilled. The weapons in question are the ones which the rebels are actively using in order to set up their own regimes in that autonomous region of Yugoslavia.

The activities of the Albanian extremists are challenging the international community and are a blatant violation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). Despite the clear demands of the Security Council, outbreaks of violence are continuing in Kosovo and killings of peaceful inhabitants are on the rise, as are incidents of arson and looting against the non-Albanian population. Essentially, ethnic cleansing is in full swing in Kosovo.

This s the result of the policy of appeasement of Albanian separatism pursued by a number of Western countries.

Unfortunately, we are obliged to note that the international forces deployed in Kosovo are not coping with the wave of terror which has enveloped this region. We believe that the Security Council resolution gives the international forces enough authority to take more decisive action to restore order. It is also necessary to speed up the deployment of the United Nations mission in Kosovo, which is charged with maintaining civil law and order and performing basic administrative functions in this region during the transitional period.

The passivity of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia towards the crimes being perpetrated in Kosovo is nothing if not bewildering. The international community must take energetic steps to avert the dangerous trends in the developing situation in Kosovo and divert the process towards a political settlement while fully respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Yugoslavia. Nobody should be under any illusion that these fundamental principles for an equitable solution of the Kosovo problem can be ignored. We cannot turn a blind eye to the terrorism, separatism and ethnic cleansing which are being perpetrated against the will of the international community. The abnormalities in the situation in Kosovo demand energetic, responsible action to correct them.

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LETTER DATED 18 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that over 1,400 unexploded mines, bombs, missiles and ordnance left behind after the 30-nation aggression against Iraq were found and dealt with in various parts of the country between 1 June and 31 July 1999. These explosive devices include missiles, cluster bombs, spherical bombs, tape bombs and mines which were found in the following governorates: Basra, Wasit, Dhi Qar, Ninawa, Najaf, Diyala, Muthanna, Salah al-Din, Qadisiyah, Karbala, Anbar and Ta'mim.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

99-23958 (E) 180899 180899

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NATIONS

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LETTER DATED 18 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued on 17 August 1999 clarifying its position on the so-called "sunshine policy" of south Korea (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) KIM Chang Guk
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

99-24023 (E) 200899

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Annex

Statement by the Spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued on 17 August 1999

Today, the international concern for peace, stability and reunification of the Korean peninsula is growing with each passing day.

The consistent and sincere efforts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to resolve the reunification question through great national unity transcending the differences in ideology and system existing in the north and the south of Korea have been gaining great sympathy, whereas the so-called "sunshine policy" of the south Korean authorities is being rejected everywhere at home and abroad.

This notwithstanding, the present south Korean authorities, while advertising their "sunshine policy" as if it were a new policy to improve the north-south relations, are keeping themselves busy begging for support for it.

In view of dangerous consequences that such reckless acts of the south Korean authorities will have on peace and stability of the Korean peninsula and on the inter-Korean relations as well, we consider it necessary to disclose the true colour of their "sunshine policy".

Their "sunshine policy" is a variant of the "peaceful transition strategy" of the United States of America. In a nutshell, it is an intrigue to induce the north to "reform" and "opening" under the cloak of "reconciliation" and "cooperation" and thus achieve "unification by absorbing the north" into their "free democratic system".

This was clearly revealed through what they said in public concerning this policy.

It is said that the south Korean authorities picked the name "sunshine policy" from a Greek fable, according to which sunshine was able to make a pedestrian put off his or her overcoat, though wind failed to do so. This itself becomes an absurd remark, insulting and provoking to the other party.

The present ruler of south Korea asserted openly on several occasions that "sunshine" capable of melting away the other party, not "strong wind", meaning head-on confrontation, would be more effective for "undressing" the north, saying that it was not the cold war, but the "appeasement policy" of the United States that caused the collapse of the former Soviet Union and that it is the "engagement policy" that induced a certain country to "reform" and "opening".

Recently, the south Korean ruler, who is accustomed to depending on foreign forces, renamed the "sunshine policy" an "engagement policy", because the former term was disliked by the United States, his master.

The reality eloquently proves how absurd and disgraceful it is for the south Korean authorities to make much ado about "engaging" the north.

Although they are talking about "reconciliation" and "cooperation" with the north, they are making frenzied attempts to stifle the north militarily, hand in glove with outside forces behind the scene.

They continue shipping lethal weapons into south Korea to kill fellow countrymen and to launch aggression on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in "collaboration" with the United States and Japan, and are conducting all kinds of joint military exercises like their annual events.

They have gone as far as to plead with the United States for continued presence of its troops on the Korean peninsula even after reunification. This is the true colour of the present south Korean authorities, obstructing peace on the Korean peninsula.

This is also a clear indication that their remarks about "reconciliation" and "cooperation" are a sham to all intents and purposes, and people are surprised at the hazardous poison hidden in the "sunshine policy".

The south Korean authorities are paying lip service to "reconciliation" and "cooperation" with the north. But, in reality, they are building higher institutional and physical barriers to bar them.

They are maintaining the "National Security Law", which has defined the north as the enemy and have consolidated the "Agency for National Security Planning", the anti-north plot breeding centre, as the "National Intelligence Service" and made the concrete wall, a symbol of national shame, a permanent barrier blocking the inter-Korean visits.

This fact alone is more than enough to prove how hypocritical and anti-national is their "sunshine policy" to "engage" the north.

If true reconciliation and cooperation are to be realized, mutual visits should be effected between the north and the south of Korea and free discussion and activities by patriotic organizations for reunification ensured.

However, the present south Korean authorities are suppressing and indiscriminately imprisoning all personages and organizations involved in the pro-reunification patriotic movement on charges of "enemy-benefiting acts" and "enemy-benefiting organizations".

They are turning away even an elementary humanitarian issue of repatriating unconverted long-term prisoners released under the pressure of public opinion to their families in the north and openly taking such an anti-reunification step as issuing a warrant of arrest for, delegates of pro-reunification movement organizations now in Pyongyang who participated in the reunification festival.

Likewise, the "reconciliation" and "cooperation" on their lips are the culminations of the doubled-faced and deceptive acts on the part of south Korean authorities.

All these facts clearly prove that the "sunshine policy" is the most vicious anti-nation, anti-reunification and anti-north confrontational intrigue.

From the early period of national division, we have put forward just and realistic proposals on effecting full-scale opening and free-travel between the north and the south of Korea and resolving the reunification question through reconciliation and cooperation and have made all sincere efforts to achieve them.

The successive south Korean authorities, however, have rejected all those proposals and systematically held in check the nation's reunification efforts. They are resorting to anti-reunification and separatist manoeuvres more viciously than ever before, talking about the so-called "sunshine policy" and "engagement policy".

There can be not the slightest vacillation and change in the rock-firm faith and will of the Government and people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to safeguard, consolidate and develop to the last the Korean-style socialism chosen and built by the Korean people themselves.

Accordingly, the "sunshine policy" of the south Korean authorities, aimed at degenerating and undermining our system to "absorb" it into their "free democratic system", will inevitably bring nothing but north-south confrontation and war.

Korea should be reunified by a confederate formula on the basis of three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, which the north and south agreed upon and solemnly declared at home and abroad, and according to the Ten-Point Programme for the great unity of the entire nation.

This is the most just and realistic proposal acceptable to all that can guarantee lasting peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and bring about the country's reunification.

We express the expectation and belief that all the peace-loving Governments and peoples around the world, who are concerned about peace, stability and reunification on the Korean peninsula, will have a correct understanding of it and extend active support and encouragement to the Government and people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to achieve them.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/1999/893
18 August 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 18 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 17 August 1999 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the latest attack on Iraq carried out by the United States of America and the United Kingdom. On 11 August 1999, United States and British aircraft bombed the Dayr Mar Mati area to the north of Mosul, where there was a scientific encampment for the observation of the solar eclipse. A number of civilians were killed or injured in the attack. It is requested that the Secretary-General and the Security Council condemn this savage attack and make representations to the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom with a view to halting the attacks which those two countries carry out against Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Identical letters dated 17 August 1999 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that, at 1030 hours on 11 August 1999, United States and British aircraft carried out a fresh act of savage aggression against Iraq, bombing the Dayr Mar Mati area to the north of Mosul, where there was a scientific encampment for the observation of the solar eclipse. The eclipse was the most significant scientific phenomenon to be witnessed in the region, and was being observed by a group of distinguished Iraqi and foreign scientists and researchers, as well as by a large number of news agency and satellite channel reporters. A number of civilians were killed or injured in this savage attack.

None of the norms and laws respected by the peoples of the world as they enter the twenty-first century provides any justification for this criminal act, yet the United States Administration keeps intensifying its attacks on the people and culture of Iraq and obstructing that people's scientific advancement.

It should be noted that on 10 August 1999, Kenneth Bacon, the official spokesman for the Pentagon, said that United States and British aerial sorties over the so-called no-fly zones would continue on 11 August 1999, regardless of the solar eclipse taking place on that day. The spokesman also acknowledged that coalition forces had bombed Iraqi sites an average of 15 times per month since 17 December 1998.

In view of the foregoing, we request you to condemn this savage attack and to make representations to the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom with a view to halting and preventing any repetition of these attacks, which are now part of those two countries' established policy, aimed at achieving their political aims. These aims are to discredit Iraq and its independence, and to inflict damage on its indomitable people and on Iraqi culture.

While condemning these repeated criminal acts of aggression against our country, we request the Security Council to intervene with the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom with a view to halting and preventing any repetition of the acts of aggression that they are carrying out against Iraq.

We also reaffirm the legitimate right of the Republic of Iraq to seek reparations for all the material and other damage sustained by Iraq as a result of these acts of aggression, which are incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of international law.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq

UNITED NATIONS **S**

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S/1999/894
19 August 1999
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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 18 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, between 8 and 14 August 1999, United States and British aircraft, taking off from their bases in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, continued to violate Iraqi airspace, carrying out acts of aggression, observation and provocation, as specified in the list annexed hereto.

I should be grateful if you would intervene with the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the States which are providing them with facilities in order to commit these acts of aggression, namely, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to halting such acts, which endanger the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq and constitute blatant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law.

These acts continue to cause hundreds of deaths and injuries among the civilian population and material damage to private and public property. The logistical support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British makes them essential accomplices in the aggression against Iraq, and they therefore bear international responsibility for these acts. The Republic of Iraq reaffirms its right to demand reparation for the harm inflicted on the Iraqi people through the aforementioned acts.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Details of violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 8-14 August 1999

1. In the northern region 72 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho, Baibo, Ayn Zalah, Tall Kayf, Sinjar, Rawanduz and Ba'shiqah.

2. In the southern region 252 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Amarah, Artawi, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Lasaf, Qurnah, Afak, Qal'at Salih, Qal'at Sukkar, Rifa'i, Ushbayjah, Shinafiyah, Qadisiyah, Ali al-Sharqi, Hayy, Hawr al-Hammar, Maymunah, Rumaythah, Taqtaqanah, Shu'aybah, Najaf, Shatrah, Ansab and Umm Qasr.

3. At 0825 hours on 8 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s and F-16s, and were supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They carried out 61 sorties, 45 from Saudi airspace and 16 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Ushbayjah, Mu'ayanah, Khidr, Artawi, Salman, Samawah, Nasiriyah, Rifa'i, Qal'at Sukkar and Jalibah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2015 hours, drove them off.

4. At 1045 hours on 8 August 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 sorties, and overflew the Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Amadiyah, Irbil, Qal'at Dizah, Dukan dam and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1340 hours, drove them off.

5. At 0832 hours on 9 August 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory, supported by one AWACS early warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 20 sorties, and overflew the Irbil, Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amadiyah and Sinjar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1545 hours, drove them off.

6. At 0832 hours on 9 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, F-18s, Tornadoes and EA-6B aircraft and were supported by two AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They carried out 56 sorties, 28 from Saudi airspace and 28 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Lasaf, Ushbayjah, Salman, Artawi, Basra, Qurnah and Rifa'i areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1545 hours, drove them off.

7. At 0100 hours on 10 August 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory, supported by one AWACS early warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 sorties, and overflew the Dohuk, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Baibo, Amadiyah, Zakho, Rawanduz, Sinjar and Mosul areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1305 hours, drove them off.

8. At 1050 hours on 10 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, Tornadoes and EA-6Bs, and were supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They carried out 40 sorties, 12 from Kuwaiti airspace and 28 from Saudi airspace. The aircraft overflew the Samawah, Lasaf, Salman, Ushbayjah, Rifa'i and Nasiriyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1825 hours, drove them off.

9. At 1930 hours on 10 August 1999 United States and British aircraft bombed grain warehouses in the southern governorate of Muthanna. The consequences of the bombing were as follows:

1. Large quantities of rice stored in the warehouses were destroyed.

2. The walls and roofs of some of the warehouses were damaged.

3. Glass and windows in the warehouses were shattered and damaged.

4. The walls and roof of the warehouse administration building were damaged.

10. At 0953 hours on 11 August 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18 and Tornado aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory, supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. The aircraft carried out 13 sorties from Saudi airspace, overflying the Artawi, Samawah, Ushbayjah, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Rumaythah, Rifa'i, Shatrah and Khidr areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1140 hours, drove them off.

11. At 1023 hours on 13 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Turkish territory, supported by one AWACS early warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 20 sorties, overflying the Dohuk, Tall Afar, Mosul and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1350 hours, drove them off.

12. At 1025 hours on 13 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, F-18s, Tornadoes and EA-6Bs, and were supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They carried out 28 sorties, 12 from Saudi airspace and 16 from

Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Artawi, Samawah, Busayyah, Ushbayjah, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Rumaythah, Rifa'i and Shatrah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2000 hours, drove them off.

13. At 0935 hours on 14 August 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s and Tornadoes, and were supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and one E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They carried out 54 sorties, 32 from Saudi airspace and 22 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Chabaish, Basra, Qurnah, Lasaf, Samawah, Amarah and Ushbayjah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1715 hours, drove them off.

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19 August 1999

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LETTER DATED 19 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued on Thursday, 19 August 1999 by the Government of the Republic of the Sudan on the first anniversary of the American military aggression on the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical factory.

The statement was read by the Minister of Culture and Information, Ghazi Salah-Elddin, the Government's official spokesman, at a press conference held in Khartoum, on Thursday, 19 August 1999.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Elfatih ERWA
Permanent Representative

99-24017 (E) 200899

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Annex

Statement by the Government of the Sudan on the first anniversary of the American military aggression on the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical plant

The Government of the Sudan issued a statement on the first anniversary of the American military aggression on the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical plant in Khartoum on 20 August 1998.

Following is the text of the statement, which was read by the Minister of Culture and Information and the Government's official spokesman, Ghazi Salah-Elddin, at a press conference Thursday, 19 August 1999:

"Tomorrow, August 20th, coincides with the first anniversary of the American military aggression on the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical plant in Khartoum.

"The aggression, which deprived millions of sick and poor people of their right to affordable treatment, constituted a flagrant violation of the Sudan's sovereignty and territories and a stark violation of all international norms, laws and charters, including the Charter of the United Nations Organization.

"The American Administration gave out pretexts to justify the aggression, including that the Al-Shifa plant produced chemical weapons and that it was owned by Usama Bin Laden. However, it failed to bring forward any evidence apart from some weak intelligence information that had been provided by dubious and ill-intentioned sources.

"The falsity of the allegations immediately became evident for the whole world, including the United States of America itself, allegations, the likes of which are still being made to justify a hostile attitude by the United States Administration against the Sudan. By its aggression, it became clear that the American Administration did not respect the role it claims for itself as an international Power responsible for protecting international peace and security.

"More embarrassingly, the allegations it made to justify the aggression were refuted by scientists, engineers, technicians and chemists, including some who participated in the construction of the factory, the supply, installation or operation of its machines. Then came a decisive testimony against the American Administration's allegations from an investigation made by a respected laboratory inside the United States itself. These testimonies have been carried by the international media and the American press in a manner that has not left any room for the American Government to insist on its shaky accusations.

"The Sudan's position towards these unfounded allegations was a simple and logical one. Sudan asked the United Nations Organization to send a fact-finding mission to examine the claims. The Sudanese Government made

it clear that it would accept the results of the investigation and all responsibility emanating from it. It was not surprising for the Sudanese Government, however, that the American Administration rejected the request, since the Sudanese Government is confident of itself and has nothing to hide, whereas it is becoming abundantly clear that the American Government, which is still rejecting the mere discussion of the issue, is not confident in its allegations and has such that it wants to conceal.

"On this sad occasion, the Sudanese Government would like to reaffirm that the Sudan's doors are open and that the Sudan has done nothing wrong to warrant the aggression. The Government of the Sudan renews its call on the Security Council to shoulder fully its responsibilities and commitments by sending a fact-finding mission to Sudan on the nature of the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical plant and calls on the American Administration to bear the results of the findings of the mission.

"The destruction of the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical plant had catastrophic consequences on the Sudan, which has been striving since its independence to improve the conditions of its citizens. All the millions of dollars which had been spent on the construction of the factory have been wasted by the unjust attack and hundreds of workers and thousands of their dependants have been deprived of their source of income. The Sudan has lost a vital source of medicines for its people and its livestock. The Al-Shifa plant had been providing 50 to 100 per cent of the needs of the Sudan for medicines at affordable prices. The Al-Shifa pharmaceutical plant has been turned into ruins only to satisfy an evil impulse of a Power that wanted to test its destructive capabilities.

"The Sudan has witnessed important political and constitutional developments in the last 10 years, including the Peace Agreement, which includes the right to and self-determination for south Sudan, dialogue over national reconciliation, political pluralism, the positive developments in the country's relations with its neighbours and the European Union and close cooperation with the United Nations in humanitarian issues and human rights. These developments have been acclaimed by many countries and bodies, including the Secretary-General of the international organization. Unfortunately, the United States of America has chosen to neglect all these positive developments and to continue its hostile policies against the Sudan; in contrast, the Sudan wishes to reaffirm its keenness on having a peaceful dialogue and mutual respect with the United States, away from any policies that undermine the free choice of its people or interfere in their internal affairs. Sadly, instead of acknowledging its mistake, the United States continues its series of accusations and nowadays renewed charges have been made based on such erroneous information as that on which the United States based its attack on the Al-Shifa factory.

"On this sad anniversary, the Sudan would like to thank all Governments, peoples and organizations which have shown sympathy to the Sudan and supported its stance, especially the peoples and States of the Non-Aligned Movement group, the Arab, Islamic and African peoples and States, the regional and international organizations and all people and

media organizations worldwide which have supported the Sudanese people and Government in face of the unjust aggression. The Sudan calls on the international community to continue its support for it in facing the renewed threats against its sovereignty and the sanctity of its territories and in boosting its efforts for realizing peace and stability."

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 6 OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1242 (1999)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 1242 (1999) of 21 May 1999, a new 180-day period commenced at 0001 hours Eastern Standard Time on 25 May 1999, for the humanitarian programme established by Council resolution 986 (1995). The distribution plan for phase VI was approved by the Secretary-General on 11 June 1999 (S/1999/671).

2. The present report is submitted to the Security Council pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1242 (1999), and provides information up to 31 July 1999 on the distribution of humanitarian supplies throughout Iraq, including the implementation of the United Nations Inter-Agency Humanitarian Programme in the three northern governorates of Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah. It also describes developments in the implementation of the programme since the period covered by the previous report, submitted to the Council on 18 May 1999 (S/1999/573 and Corr.2).

II. REVENUE GENERATION, PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION TO END-USERS

A. Oil production and sale of petroleum and petroleum products

3. Since the beginning of phase VI and as at 31 July 1999, the oil overseers and the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) have reviewed and approved a total of 75 contracts involving purchasers from 32 countries: Algeria (1), Austria (1), Belarus (1), Belgium (1), Brazil (1), Bulgaria (1), China (4), Egypt (1), Gambia (1), Greece (1), France (4), India (1), Ireland (1), Italy (4), Kenya (1), Malaysia (2), Morocco (2), Namibia (1), Netherlands (1), Russian Federation (19), South Africa (1), Spain (3), Sudan (1), Switzerland (6), Tunisia (1), Turkey (5), Ukraine (2), United Arab Emirates (2), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2), United States of America (1), Viet Nam (1) and Yemen (1).

4. The total quantity of oil approved for export under those contracts corresponds to approximately 355 million barrels for 180 days, which is about the same amount as in the previous phase. Owing to the steady increase in price

since the beginning of this phase (about $5 a barrel since the beginning of June and another $2.50 a barrel since the beginning of July), the average price of Iraqi crude oil is about $17 a barrel - more than twice the price in December 1998, when the average price for Iraqi crude oil reached its lowest mark at around $7 a barrel. If prices remain at the current level, the estimated value of approved contracts for the export of oil will be about $6 billion, and, taking into consideration new oil contracts under review, total revenue projected for the whole 180-day period would reach $6.3 billion (including the estimated amount required for pipeline fees). While this amount exceeds considerably the revenue authorized ($5.256 billion) for phase VI under resolution 1242 (1999), it is still insufficient to cover the shortfall of revenues of about $3.1 billion under phases IV and V.

5. As at 31 July, the export of petroleum from Iraq under the current phase proceeded smoothly, with excellent cooperation among the oil overseers, the independent inspection agents for oil (Saybolt), the relevant authorities of Turkey, the Iraqi State Marketing Organization for Oil and the national oil purchasers. A total of 100 loadings, 128 million barrels in all, with an estimated value of $2.065 billion, have been completed. About 45 per cent of the liftings have been made at Ceyhan, Turkey.

6. As previously reported, the increase in the total level of oil exports from both the north and the south of Iraq in phase V led to an increase in the share of crude oil exported from Mina al-Bakr. This trend continued in phase VI, as the main capacity of Iraqi crude oil production is located in the south of the country. Consequently, in the current phase, despite the considerable increase expected in exports from the north, which would reach more than 160 million barrels, the share of exports from Ceyhan will still be in the range of 42 to 45 per cent.

7. The oil overseers have continued to advise and assist the Security Council Committee on pricing mechanisms, contract approval and modifications and other pertinent questions related to exports and monitoring under resolution 986 (1995) and all subsequent relevant resolutions. The overseers and Saybolt have worked closely to ensure the monitoring of the relevant oil installations as well as the liftings.

8. As from 1 July, only one oil overseer remains in the service of the Iraq Programme. The Security Council Committee has been unable to agree on the selection and appointment of other overseers. Although thus far no delays or constraints have been experienced, there is an urgent need for an early decision by the Committee in order to ensure that contracts for the export of oil are processed expeditiously, without interruption.

Mina al-Bakr

9. As part of its weekly reporting, Saybolt had informed the Office of the Iraq Programme of the poor and deteriorating conditions on the Mina al-Bakr oil-loading platform. Saybolt advised the Office that by November 1998 their inspection agents, as well as national staff, were facing an emergency situation at Mina al-Bakr, particularly due to the failure of the water supply arrangements on the platform. At the request of the Office of the Iraq

Programme, a United Nations team was sent, in April 1999, to Mina al-Bakr to determine whether any short-term assistance could be rendered in improving the working conditions. The team reviewed the general conditions on the platform, including the supply of potable water, the structural integrity of the platform, the fire-fighting facilities, the power supply, the quality and variety of food and control of infestation. The in-depth report of the team was submitted by the Iraq Programme to the Ministry of Oil in June with a request that the Government, which is responsible for the maintenance of the platform, take the measures necessary to improve the unhygienic environment and unsafe working conditions.

B. United Nations accounts pertaining to the Iraq Programme

10. The United Nations accounts pertaining to the Iraq Programme are divided into seven separate funds pursuant to paragraphs 8 (a) to (g) of Security Council resolution 986 (1995). As at 31 July, of the $5.256 billion authorized under resolution 1242 (1999) for the 180-day period starting on 25 May (phase VI), $897.1 million had been deposited into the account for phase VI, bringing the total oil sale since inception to $14,230.9 million. Annex I to the present report shows the allocation of the total oil revenue among the various funds and the corresponding expenditures as at 31 July. Annex II shows the number and value of the letters of credit pertaining to oil proceeds and humanitarian supplies.

C. Prioritization, processing and approval of applications, delivery to Iraq and distribution to end-users

ESB (53 per cent) account

11. During the reporting period, the Office of the Iraq Programme has processed applications submitted under phases IV, V and VI. The status of applications under the ESB (53 per cent) account as at 15 August 1999 is provided in annex III. As regards phase III, on 14 June, the Secretariat informed the Security Council Committee that the total oil revenues available under that phase for the purchase of humanitarian supplies from the 53 per cent account of the programme had been fully committed and that no further applications for phase III would be accepted. Once pending applications for the targeted nutrition programme under phase IV are received, no further applications under phase IV will be accepted.

12. The increase in oil revenues during the second half of phase V has allowed virtually unrestricted circulation of phase V applications since 22 March, with the exception of those concerning food-handling equipment and agriculture, for which the total value of applications received is now in excess of current sectoral allocations. Consultations are under way with the Government of Iraq to finalize phase V sectoral allocations in order to utilize fully the available revenues and to allow circulation of most of the remaining applications. As at 31 July, a total of 213 applications valued at $508,666,705 have been transferred from phase IV to phase V for funding purposes. One application

valued at $775,000 has been transferred from phase IV to phase VI and another valued at $151,126 has been transferred from phase V to phase VI.

13. Annex III provides information regarding the number of applications received, circulated, approved and placed on hold, as well as the number of applications approved awaiting funding, for phases IV to VI.

14. The number of applications submitted has increased from the total of 1,155 received under phase III for both accounts - ESB (53 per cent) and ESC (13 per cent) - to 1,906 under phase V as at 31 July, which has severely strained the processing and evaluation capacity of the Office of the Iraq Programme. Two additional customs experts are being recruited in order to expedite the evaluation and circulation of applications. Measures are also being taken to further assist permanent and observer missions and United Nations agencies and programmes in improving the quality of applications submitted, to upgrade data-entry operations and to streamline procedures for distribution plan amendments. Steps are also under way to make possible the receipt of applications in electronic form.

15. A further issue impeding the circulation of applications, in particular with respect to a considerable number of applications received under phases V and VI, is the inclusion in approximately 160 of the applications submitted of payment clauses that may be contrary to the procedures and understanding of the Security Council Committee, the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Secretariat and the Government of Iraq (S/1996/356) and the relevant Security Council resolutions. The Security Council Committee has directed the Office of the Iraq Programme to hold the circulation of such applications in abeyance pending the outcome of the Committee's deliberations regarding such contracts as to whether any may be circulated under existing procedures and which should be returned to the contracting parties for amendment, as appropriate.

16. There has also been a substantial increase in the demands on the Office of the Iraq Programme with regard to additional information requested by members of the Security Council Committee concerning the increasing number of applications being placed on hold. As at 13 August, the total number of applications circulated under phases III to VI, which have been placed on hold, is 475, valued at a total amount of about $500 million. The highest concentrations exist within the telecommunications, electricity and water and sanitation sectors, whereby 100 per cent, 65.5 per cent and 53.4 per cent respectively of all circulated applications under phase V have been placed on hold.

17. With regard to oil spare parts and equipment, the number of applications placed on hold in the oil sector under phase IV has remained constant. However, the number of applications placed on hold in phase V has increased from 34.2 per cent at the time of the last report to 43 per cent, with the value of applications on hold exceeding the value of those approved as at 31 July. Almost three quarters of the holds imposed on phase V applications relate to oilfields and installations in the south of Iraq.

18. In an effort to expedite the exchange of information between the relevant parties with respect to applications placed on hold for both the ESB

(53 per cent) and ESC (13 per cent) accounts, the Office of the Iraq Programme, in consultation with United Nations agencies and programmes and the Government of Iraq, has identified the most urgently required applications currently on hold and has brought them to the attention of the Security Council Committee. Furthermore, the Office of the Iraq Programme, in consultation with United Nations agencies and programmes and with the United Nations Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator in Iraq, has identified applications for contracts that would contribute to alleviating the effects of the severe drought in Iraq. The Security Council Committee is being informed when the applications are circulated as well as with respect to relevant applications that have been placed on hold.

ESC (13 per cent) account

19. The status of applications under the ESC (13 per cent) account for phases IV to VI, as at 15 August, is provided in annex III.

III. OBSERVATION AND MONITORING ACTIVITIES

A. Inspection and authentication of humanitarian supplies

20. The United Nations independent inspection agent, Cotecna Inspection S.A., continued to authenticate the arrival of humanitarian supplies at the entry points at Al-Waleed, Trebil, Umm Qasr and Zakho, as well as to report on the arrival of humanitarian supplies procured under the ESC (13 per cent) account by the United Nations agencies and programmes for the governorates of Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah. New accommodation facilities for the inspection agents have been installed in Umm Qasr and Trebil. The required hardware, software and communications equipment has been installed to provide higher capacity data links between entry points, Geneva and New York. Expedited sampling and testing have been successfully carried out on a trial basis with laboratories in Jordan and Turkey, thereby increasing the rate at which results can be provided to independent inspection agents in the absence of mobile testing laboratories at entry points. More extensive testing, when required, is carried out in Switzerland.

21. Cotecna and the Multidisciplinary Observer Unit have reported ongoing deterioration in the state of the port of Umm Qasr, which could jeopardize logistics channels, in particular for the discharge and forward delivery of bulk commodities such as foodstuffs. Problems at the port include a lack of operational dredgers, a shortage of spare parts for tugboats, a shortage of forklifts and a requirement for new straddle carriers for the discharge of vessels, a lack of reliable electrical power to operate unloading cranes and a need for new fire-fighting vehicles. Some of these requirements have been identified in the distribution plan for phase VI. The Office of the Iraq Programme has requested the Government of Iraq to take steps to bring about the necessary improvements.

B. Monitoring of oil spare parts and equipment

22. Further shipments of oil spare parts and equipment procured under resolutions 1175 (1998) and 1210 (1998) have arrived in Iraq. As at 31 July, the total value of oil spare parts and equipment that had arrived in Iraq was $78,844,964. Under the monitoring mechanism established pursuant to resolution 1175 (1998), Saybolt, in conjunction with Cotecna, monitors the arrival, storage and utilization of oil spare parts and equipment inside Iraq. As the pace of deliveries has increased significantly, the monitoring team has been increased to four, with an additional two monitors planned for deployment during the current phase. This has allowed for the monitoring of the first two stages of the intelligent pigging operation of the Kirkuk-Yumurtalik pipeline on an ongoing basis, while routine monitoring activities continue in warehouses and distribution depots.

23. In view of the fact that the original warehouses designated for storage of spare parts and equipment for the oil industry had limited capacity, spare parts and equipment are now often delivered directly to the locations for which they were procured. This adjustment in procedure has also lessened the possibility of damage during unloading and unpacking at the intermediary warehouses.

24. The monitors have noted increased delays in the transportation and unpacking of oil spare parts and equipment arriving at Umm Qasr and destined for the South Oil Company warehouses at Basrah. The South Oil Company has indicated that there is a considerable lack of transport available for this purpose. Storage space at the Basrah warehouse is also extremely limited and therefore overcrowded, as previously delivered spare parts and equipment cannot be utilized in the field until all related items have been received.

25. The monitors for oil spare parts and equipment report that they have received full cooperation from the relevant authorities in Iraq in carrying out their tasks.

C. United Nations observation mechanism

26. During the period under review, with a few exceptions in areas close to Mosul and the Turkish border, regular observation activities continued throughout Iraq despite the persisting security constraints.

27. During the reporting period, the Geographical Observation Unit carried out 2,660 visits in the food, health, nutrition, agriculture and education sectors, including spot-checks of 1,449 beneficiaries of the food basket. World Food Programme (WFP) observers undertook a total of 41,854 visits during the reporting period, including 247 visits to silos, 1,058 to mills, 234 to warehouses and 11,239 to food and flour agents, as well as 29,076 household spot-checks. Since the inception of the programme, WFP has visited all food and flour agents throughout the country, 10.05 per cent of all households in the centre and south and 24.58 per cent of all households in the northern governorates of Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah.

28. In the health sector, the World Health Organization (WHO) undertook a comprehensive review of stocks of medical items at the warehouses of the Iraqi State Company for Importation of Drugs and Medical Supplies (Kimadia) in Baghdad, and analysed health service data collected by the Ministry of Health to assess the impact of the humanitarian programme on the sector. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) carried out a nutritional status survey for weight and height covering 22,599 children under five years of age in 127 primary health centres throughout the centre and south of Iraq, as well as a similar survey covering 2,760 children in the three northern governorates. In the water and sanitation sector, UNICEF observers conducted 510 visits to various water projects and warehouses in Baghdad and the 15 central and southern governorates, including 191 visits to observe chlorine supplies. In the north, UNICEF conducted a village-level survey of water projects to assess the impact of the drought.

29. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), while continuing its regular observation activities in the agriculture sector, also undertook three end-user surveys, on the effect of foot-and-mouth disease, on the use of agrochemicals in plant protection and on agro-machinery. In total, FAO carried out 629 observations in the centre and south and 1,673 in the north. In the electricity sector, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) undertook a comprehensive review and analysis of the installed and existing electrical generation capacity of power plants and distribution networks in the three northern governorates. UNDP observers carried out 129 visits to more than 60 locations in the 15 central and southern governorates during the reporting period, covering power plants, distribution and transmission substations and warehouses.

30. In education, a long-standing constraint in the observation activities was resolved at the end of June, when the Ministry of Higher Education increased the number of escorts from 4 to 10. Also, the Ministry of Education agreed to provide vehicles for its escorts. In July observers from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) were able to visit universities outside Baghdad for the first time. A total of 330 observation visits were conducted by United Nations observers in the education sector.

IV. PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION: EFFECTIVENESS, EQUITABILITY AND ADEQUACY

A. Implementation of the programme in the centre and south of Iraq

31. The severe drought and increasingly deteriorating electricity supply in Iraq made the fragile humanitarian situation worse during the reporting period. To facilitate the processing of drought-related applications, the United Nations compiled a list of contracts requiring urgent consideration by the Security Council Committee. This focused on commodities in the agriculture, water and sanitation, electricity and health sectors. In order to assess the extent and effect of the drought, a rapid field assessment survey was conducted in the northern governorates of Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah. As at 31 July, however, FAO was still awaiting approval by the Government of Iraq to conduct a country-wide survey on behalf of the United Nations system.

32. During the visit to Iraq by the Executive Director of the Iraq Programme in June, the Government of Iraq agreed to cooperate fully with the United Nations in reviewing the inventory of supplies and equipment in government warehouses in accordance with resolution 986 (1995). The review to be undertaken by the United Nations agencies and programmes concerned will involve preparation of the categories of items together with their respective dollar value. The categories of items, for example, will indicate supplies and equipment that are defective or did not meet quality control standards, lists of items that require complementary items, including parts and equipment awaiting shipment to Iraq or applications for items that have been placed on hold by the Security Council Committee. The list of supplies in storage as buffer stocks will also be prepared. The review exercise will be carried out on an ongoing basis, involving each sector, and will become an integral part of the reporting of the United Nations Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator in Iraq.

Food

33. As at 31 July, foodstuffs and food-handling equipment valued at $3,856 million had arrived in Iraq since the beginning of the programme, of which $3,313 million (85.9 per cent) had been distributed to end-users in the centre and south of the country. A total of $480 million worth of supplies for this sector arrived during the reporting period, and supplies worth $511 million were distributed. The focus of activity in this sector during phase VI is to provide a food basket of 2,150 kilocalories per person per day to every registered individual.

34. The food basket has continued to fall short of the targeted amount of 2,150 kilocalories per person per day. On average, the food basket offered 93 per cent of the targeted caloric value and 85 per cent of the protein value during the reporting period. During the same period, 10 food basket commodities were distributed in full. Protein sources such as pulses and dairy products were the commodities in shortest supply and were distributed below the average distribution plan ration. This was due in part to the late arrival of commodities and also to under-ordering by the Ministry of Trade. Twelve per cent of the food basket contents during the reporting period came from government loans. The Government has no buffer stocks of protein-rich dairy products, and shortfalls in these crucial components continue to reduce the caloric value of the food basket.

35. While applications submitted for the food sector generally have been sufficient to meet the adjusted requirements for the food basket under phases IV and V, insufficient applications for pulses have been received under phase IV and as yet none have been received under phase V, with the exception of transfers from phase IV. Also, insufficient applications for adult milk and cheese have been received for phases IV and V. During phase V, only 57 per cent of the needs for pulses and 54 per cent of the needs for adult milk and cheese were covered; coverage for other food basket items was between 93 per cent and 116 per cent for phase V. As a result, these items remained either absent from or reduced in the monthly food basket throughout the reporting period.

Health and nutrition

36. According to WHO, as at 31 July, medicines, medical supplies and equipment valued at $664.6 million procured under the bulk purchase arrangement had arrived in Iraq since the beginning of the programme, of which supplies worth $422.8 million (63.6 per cent) had been distributed to end-users country-wide. During the reporting period, a total of $58.7 million worth of supplies arrived and $74.1 million worth were distributed. The value of items remaining in warehouses as at 31 July amounted to $241.8 million. The focus of activity in this sector has been to provide a broad range of medicines and medical and dental equipment and to support their distribution.

37. The Government of Iraq suggested in the phase VI distribution plan that the health allocation should be split equally between medicines and medical equipment. This 50:50 ratio was a welcome change from the 60:40 ratio suggested in the distribution plan for phase V, in particular since the Ministry of Health had earlier favoured medical equipment at the expense of essential pharmaceuticals.

38. WHO initiated a comprehensive analysis of stocks at the Kimadia warehouses in Baghdad starting in May. As at 31 July, a total of $386.9 million worth of medicines had arrived in the country. Of that amount $265.8 million worth of drugs were distributed, representing a total distribution rate of 68.8 per cent country-wide. Items valued at $103.6 million (26.7 per cent) represented buffer and working stock. The analysis of medical supplies and equipment stocks revealed that items worth $148 million, or 65 per cent of the total value of $227.9 million were distributed. Fifteen per cent of the remaining stock represented items undergoing quality testing, having failed quality testing or awaiting the arrival of complementary accessories. Initial distribution delays caused by transportation difficulties were partially solved. Regarding stocks for spare parts, $832,708 of a total amount of $1.5 million, or 52 per cent, were distributed. The low rate of distribution of spare parts was attributed to their being stored centrally and to the fact that they are distributed only on a need and demand basis.

39. One of the principal obstacles to the distribution of medicines has been the time required for carrying out quality testing. The four-month delay in testing tuberculosis and diphtheria vaccines ordered for the northern governorates has caused considerable concern during this reporting period. UNICEF, in response, has proposed that vaccines for the northern governorates be procured directly, as they had been in phase I. WHO has provided technical assistance to the quality testing laboratories and has suggested that its assistance has resulted in shortening the average drug testing time from 28 to 23 days.

40. A qualitative assessment of items available at health centres procured under resolution 986 (1995) showed that most of those facilities had received 25 to 33 per cent of the 70 items (including emergency drugs) recommended in the national list for primary health care, compared to 10 per cent one year ago. Most of the remaining items were available from other sources. Some of the items had not yet been delivered and arrivals have been erratic, thus making it impossible to ensure that needs will be met at any given time. At the hospital

level, in-patients were provided with a full course of treatment where drugs were available. However, out-patients in hospitals and in health centres regularly received only three days of treatment, even for drugs that required a minimum of four to five days of treatment. Patients in public clinics and health insurance clinics were provided with three days of treatment. There was a severe shortage of a range of antibiotics in almost all the health facilities. Also in short supply in nearly all the hospitals were narcotic analgesics, corticosteroid injections and medical consumables. There was also an acute shortage of anti-tuberculosis drugs at the end of May, forcing a break in treatment for most tuberculosis patients. WHO, through its regular programme, procured substantial quantities of these drugs, allowing some patients to continue treatment.

41. Drugs for chronic illnesses are priority items under all phases. There is a defined list of items covering 12 therapeutic categories. An analysis of stocks for these drugs available at the Kimadia warehouse as at 30 June, considering the past monthly consumption, indicated that most drugs for chronic diseases would be adequate for at least the next three months.

42. UNICEF conducted a nutritional status survey for weight and height/length at 127 primary health centres throughout the centre and south of Iraq in April, covering 22,599 children under five years of age. A comparison of data from March 1998 indicated that the prevalence of underweight remained almost the same (21.3 per cent in April 1999 versus 22.8 per cent in March 1998), as did the prevalence of wasting (9.3 per cent versus 9.1 per cent). However, there was an apparent reduction in stunting or chronic malnutrition (20.4 per cent compared with 26.7 per cent). Although malnutrition levels remain unacceptably high, it is the first sign of any reduction since the first survey, conducted in April 1997.

43. Under phase IV of the programme (30 May to 23 November 1998), $15 million was allocated for the targeted feeding programme for children under five and lactating mothers. Despite repeated requests made by the United Nations at different levels, as at 31 July, only one application had been received by the Office of the Iraq Programme and approved by the Security Council, for high-protein biscuits, at a value of just under $1.7 million. No application for therapeutic milk has been submitted to the Office of the Iraq Programme. According to UNICEF, high-protein biscuits should begin arriving in Iraq within two months. On 27 July, the Government of Iraq stated that it had contracted phase IV targeted nutrition supplies at the quantities specified in the distribution plan for phase VI, at a cost of $9,481,000 - which was confirmed by UNICEF - and requested the Office of the Iraq Programme to allocate the remainder ($4.6 million) of $15 million set aside for the targeted nutrition programme for new contracts in water and sanitation. The allocations for the targeted feeding programme under phases V and VI are, respectively, $9,481,000 and $6,160,000.

Water and sanitation

44. As at 31 July, supplies for the water and sanitation sector valued at $72 million had arrived in Iraq since the start of the programme, of which $58.2 million (82 per cent) had been distributed from central warehouses and

$38.8 million (55 per cent) had been installed at sites or delivered to end-users. A total of $12.1 million worth of supplies for this sector arrived during the reporting period, and supplies worth $12.4 million were installed or delivered. The focus of activity in this sector has been to improve the quantity and quality of water in urban areas by maintaining existing treatment sites and by providing limited inputs for operating urban sewage networks. In rural areas, the focus of activity has been to increase the provision of treated water through the installation of compact units for smaller-scale water treatment and provision of water tankers.

45. The distribution of water and sanitation supplies from the central warehouse to the treatment plants continues to be slow. The Baghdad Water and Sewage Authority, handling supplies for Baghdad City, has distributed 41 per cent of supplies arrived in the country to the treatment plants. The General Establishment for Water and Sewage, serving the rest of the country, has distributed 62 per cent of supplies arrived in the country to treatment plants. Large quantities of essential materials remain in storage. The main explanation is the substantial decline in staff with sufficient skills to verify, transport and use the inputs ordered. The distribution rates are unlikely to improve without a programme of in-service training.

46. The water production level at plants receiving programme inputs increased by some 10 to 15 per cent. At the beneficiary level, it is difficult to quantify progress in water coverage owing to deteriorating networks, long power outages and population growth. The Baghdad Water and Sewage Authority and the General Establishment for Water and Sewage ordered and received a total of 51 generators to maintain uninterrupted operations at various plants. Of the 20 generators that had arrived for the Baghdad Water and Sewage Authority, two were undergoing quality testing. Of the 31 generators that had arrived for the General Establishment for Water and Sewage, all had been distributed but only 16 had been installed. A total of 34 of the 46 water tankers ordered had arrived in the country, of which 1 was received damaged. The remaining 33 were distributed. All 50 compact water treatment units ordered had arrived in the country, including 30 units received recently and 10 units that had been received partially without complementary parts. Ten units were distributed.

47. As a result of the drought, the water treatment plants were experiencing difficulties in pumping raw water at intake sites owing to lowered water levels in rivers (1.5 to 2.0 metres, as estimated by the Ministry of Agriculture and FAO). This effect was more severe in rural than in urban areas. The levels of water contamination caused by the release of raw sewage were on the increase.

48. The Baghdad Water and Sewage Authority and the General Establishment for Water and Sewage received 2,050 and 5,250 tons of chlorine respectively during the reporting period. Of these, 79 per cent was utilized by the Baghdad Water and Sewage Authority and 59 per cent was utilized by the General Establishment for Water and Sewage. According to the limited data made available from the Ministry of Health during the reporting period, failed samples for bacteriological analysis and chlorine tests in the first quarter of 1999 were 5 and 8 per cent respectively. Comparative figures for 1998 were 13 and 20 per cent each. Although there was an overall improvement in water quality, improvement was yet to be seen in some of the governorates. In response to the

prevalence of diarrhoeal diseases, the affected governorates have increased the dose level for water chlorination. Surveillance activities by the Ministry of Health have increased.

Agriculture

49. As at 31 July, supplies for the agriculture sector valued at $176.5 million had arrived in Iraq since the start of the programme, of which $101.6 million (57.6 per cent) had been installed at sites or delivered to end-users. During the reporting period a total of $47.8 million worth of supplies arrived for this sector, and supplies worth $49.6 million were installed or delivered. The focus of activity in this sector has been to provide agricultural and irrigation machinery and equipment, ground-spraying chemicals, animal vaccines and poultry production inputs, and to rehabilitate poultry production facilities.

50. The distribution of agricultural inputs has varied depending on the subsector. Within the irrigation subsector, 86 per cent of supplies have been utilized; 57 per cent of animal health inputs, such as animal vaccines, have been utilized, and this improvement over the previous reporting period is probably because of the sense of urgency in treating animals afflicted with foot-and-mouth disease. Only 40 per cent of plant protection equipment and chemicals have been delivered to the users. Nineteen per cent of spare parts and 57 per cent of agro-machinery have been distributed to end-users. Significant quantities of agro-machinery equipment and spares have reached governorate warehouses, indicating that transportation is not the problem. Farmers are reluctant to procure agro-machinery mainly because of the lengthy procedures required by local agricultural authorities for purchasing supplies provided for under resolution 986 (1995). More importantly, the portion of the price they are required to pay is deemed too high by farmers. These concerns have been brought to the Government's attention by the United Nations. The Ministry of Agriculture has now accepted the need to lower the prices of agro-machinery inputs.

51. Among other consequences of the drought, FAO reported a reduction in the production of wheat and barley in the 1997/98 season from 708,669 and 675,692 tons respectively to 331,100 and 188,548 tons (47 and 28 per cent respectively). Future reductions in irrigated summer crops as well as in orchard productivity were anticipated. Moreover, reductions in areas cultivated for rice and maize were reported to be between 70 and 80 per cent. FAO also reported a decrease in the available forage base, including agricultural by-products, barley grain and natural range, resulting in the deterioration of animal health and an increase in the vulnerability of livestock to diseases.

52. The distribution of irrigation inputs had a positive impact on drought relief efforts. The inputs were used to replace the aged and worn-out components of equipment at irrigation and drainage pumping stations. The delivered inputs covered 25 per cent of the total requirements of pumping units and electrical motors. FAO had proposed a speedy approval and release of contracts on hold related to drought inputs under phase V. All those contracts except one were approved by the Security Council Committee.

53. According to the Government of Iraq, by the end of July, foot-and-mouth disease had infected 2,594,054 sheep and goats and 154,060 cattle, of which 408,516 sheep and goats (16 per cent) and 19,531 head of cattle (13 per cent) had died as a result. In order to keep the spread of foot-and-mouth disease in check, a country-wide vaccination campaign was launched on 9 June. All of the 1.5 million doses procured for cattle under the programme were delivered and used. Under phase V an additional 18 million doses were procured for sheep and cattle, while under phase VI an additional 1 million doses will be procured for cattle. Although programme inputs have contributed positively to the progress of the campaign, a shortage of vaccines needed to provide booster doses to 26 per cent of the primed cattle persists.

54. Frequent electricity outages and delayed approvals and arrivals of generators and poultry farm rehabilitation equipment were the main constraining factors in the poultry production subsector. The cumulative value of commodities received in this subsector stood at $27,620,094 as at 31 July, of which items worth $18,408,079 were distributed to end-users. The bulk of remaining stock, consisting of poultry feed, was available for distribution on a regular basis in accordance with different production cycle requirements. According to FAO, 4.4 tons of meat and 2,687,000 eggs were produced during the reporting period, with inputs provided under resolution 986 (1995).

Electricity

55. As at 31 July, electrical equipment valued at $139.7 million had arrived in Iraq since the beginning of the programme, 95 per cent ($132.8 million) of which had been distributed to installation sites in the centre and south of the country. A total of $24.9 million worth of supplies for this sector arrived during the reporting period, and supplies worth $29.8 million were distributed to installation sites. The focus of activity in this sector has been the delivery of equipment to 21 power plants and to the four maintenance departments for each of the electricity distribution authorities, with the objective of slowing the deterioration of the system by meeting emergency requirements.

56. The total installed generation capacity in the centre and south of Iraq is 8,475 megawatts. Currently, an average of only 30 to 40 per cent is available, affecting all consumers. The first stage of the rehabilitation of the Nassiriya power station added 360 megawatts to the national grid. The output of the Baiji power station was increased from 400 megawatts in March to 550 megawatts in July, adding 150 megawatts to the grid. The anticipated construction of six new units at the Mulla Abdul gas power station is expected to add 225 megawatts to the grid by February 2000. Daily power cuts reached 12 to 16 hours a day in most of the 15 governorates, with the exception of the Baghdad governorate, where power cuts lasted from six to nine hours per day. Low rainfall in 1998/99 has seriously affected the generation capacity of hydropower plants and, to some extent, thermal and gas units. During the summer of 1999, the average amount of electricity generated by hydropower plants dropped by nearly 50 per cent of the 1998 generation capacity and presently represents only 26 per cent of the total installed capacity. The drought also affected thermal power plants, as the boiler, condenser cooling and cooling of other equipment need considerable amounts of treated water.

57. Several national staff casualties occurred as a result of the lack of safety material. There were 19 accidents during the reporting period, of which 9 were fatal. The allocation related to safety equipment in phase V was 100 per cent contracted, at $2,256,343, of which contracts worth $1,555,156 have been approved and contracts worth $696,080 have been placed on hold. No equipment has yet arrived in the country.

Education

58. As at 31 July, education supplies valued at $37.8 million had arrived in Iraq since the start of the programme, of which an amount worth $18.6 million (49.2 per cent) had been distributed. During the reporting period, a total of $4.8 million worth of supplies arrived for this sector, and supplies worth $1.7 million were distributed. The focus of activity in this sector has been to provide materials for the rehabilitation of schools and the Ministry of Education printing press, to produce classroom furniture and to provide stationery, physical education supplies, teaching aids and equipment, furniture, books and sports equipment.

59. An analysis based on information collected from schools indicated that school rehabilitation remained a priority and was constrained by the lack of local funding for labour and in-country components. Also, despite the distribution of 83,907 assembled, ready-made desks and 6,570 locally produced desks over the last three months, the supply remained acutely inadequate. However, the immediate need for chalkboards had been met.

60. Facilities for the transportation and installation of educational materials were insufficient. Movement of supplies to schools and their installation varied with the governorates' policies on the delivery and collection of supplies. Thus, despite the delivery of many commodities to governorates close to the end of the school year, their movement to the beneficiary schools depends on the ability of the schools to arrange collection. Delivery of trucks by September 1999 could ease these transportation difficulties.

Improving telecommunications support for the humanitarian programme

61. As indicated in my previous report (S/1999/573), the revised part seven of the distribution plan for phase V, concerning telecommunications, was approved on 13 May 1999 (S/1999/559). As at 31 July six applications, valued at $93.2 million, had been received for the telecommunications sector. Four of those applications, worth $61.5 million, have been placed on hold. The Secretariat has advised the permanent missions concerned on the action required to finalize the two remaining applications, worth $31.7 million.

B. Implementation of the programme in Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah

Food

62. As at 31 July, foodstuffs valued at $501.6 million had been distributed to the northern governorates of Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah under the bulk

purchase agreement with the Government of Iraq since the start of the programme. A total of $78.5 million worth of foodstuffs for this sector was distributed during the reporting period. The focus of activity, as in the centre and south, is to provide a food basket of 2,150 kilocalories per person per day to every registered individual.

63. Concern about the issue of food quality control was voiced by the local authorities. The United Nations has pointed out to local authorities that of the 1.3 million tons of food distributed to the three northern governorates since the implementation of the humanitarian programme, less than 1,000 tons - less than 0.08 per cent - has comprised losses or damaged commodities. This is significantly below the internationally accepted norm for loss of up to 2 per cent. It was also pointed out that WFP had given standing instructions to all sub-offices in the north to replace immediately any food found to be damaged or of sub-standard quality.

64. WFP has proposed a draft protocol between WFP and the Government on procedures, rules and regulations regarding the receipt of food in transit warehouses at Mosul and Kirkuk. While the Ministry of Trade wishes to abstain from a formal endorsement of procedures, it agreed to provide to WFP comprehensive laboratory analyses and a health certificate on the suitability of commodities for human consumption upon delivery in Mosul and Kirkuk or immediately thereafter. This would also apply to government food-stock loans. The results of laboratory tests carried out by the Ministry are in general binding for WFP; however, WFP reserves the right to conduct a third-party quality analysis in case of a dispute.

65. To secure the timely and equitable distribution of the food ration country-wide, the Government also agreed to ensure that the full allocation is available in WFP warehouses prior to announcing the monthly food basket composition. Moreover, WFP and the Ministry agreed that the Ministry should include stocks at WFP warehouses in its weekly work plans. WFP will be informing the Ministry about its stocks on a weekly basis.

66. As a result of delayed deliveries of some commodities, 41 per cent of the food agents on average did not receive complete rations within a given month. This was mainly attributed to the late supply of pulses and soap in May and the non-supply of pulses in June, combined with the non-replacement of poor-quality rice. Consequently, only 48 per cent of food basket commodities were distributed on time during the reporting period.

Health and nutrition

67. As at 31 July, medical equipment valued at $25 million had arrived in the three northern governorates, of which $23.2 million (92.7 per cent) had been distributed since the start of the programme. As at 31 July, of the medicines purchased in bulk and allocated under the first five phases, an amount of $36.8 million had been received. Nutrition supplies valued at $23.7 million had arrived in the three northern governorates since the start of the programme, of which $20.5 million (86.8 per cent) had been distributed. The focus of activity in this sector has been to maintain a reliable flow of medicine and medical

equipment as well as to provide therapeutic milk and high-protein biscuits to malnourished children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

68. A WHO analysis of available stocks of some important therapeutic categories indicated that the supply of anti-hypertensive and other drugs for the treatment of related heart conditions was sufficient to last between two and three months. The quantity of available anti-cancer drugs was sufficient for a 12-month period. However, because over 90 per cent of those drugs were supplied under phase I on the 13 per cent basis rather than on the basis of actual need, they now need to be utilized within six months. WHO is holding discussions with Kimadia on the possibility of having the anti-cancer drugs that are approaching their expiry date transferred to the centre and south of Iraq for more immediate redistribution. An average of 70 per cent of all registered patients received a full course of treatment. Detailed discussions were held with the local authorities on the supply of drugs to private pharmacies in order to formulate a unified operational approach similar to that in effect in the centre and south.

69. In June, WFP reviewed the current nutrition programme in the three northern governorates and made an initial assessment of the viability of alternative programmes to support food security at the household level. Recommendations are expected to be finalized shortly.

70. Results from the UNICEF nutritional status survey conducted in June showed that the prevalence of underweight had increased to 14.7 per cent from 13.6 per cent in November 1998. Acute malnutrition had doubled, from 1.7 per cent to 3.4 per cent, while chronic malnutrition during the same period had dropped from 24.3 per cent to 18.9 per cent. The rise in acute malnutrition could be related to the fact that the survey was conducted in the summer, when diarrhoea is more prevalent and serious. During the reporting period 16,124 kilogrammes of therapeutic milk and 65,738 kilogrammes of high-protein biscuits were distributed to 27,509 malnourished children. In the same period vitamin A capsules were distributed to 24,453 lactating mothers and 20,056 children. In view of the previous findings on positive nutrition trends, WFP and UNICEF agreed, in collaboration with the local authorities, to expand the scope of the nutrition programme to include also chronically malnourished children. This would increase the caseload from some 154,000 beneficiaries in May to 183,000 in July.

71. UNICEF assisted in the transportation of vaccines procured by the Government under phase III for the following: 315,000 doses of diphtheria, 36,000 doses of measles, 500,000 doses of tetanus toxoid and 29,780 doses of hepatitis B vaccine. It provided from its regular programme 42,000 doses of tuberculosis vaccine, 315 doses of polio vaccine and 50,000 syringes to address shortages. However, this did not lead to an increase in immunization coverage owing to inadequate amounts of available vaccines and late deliveries in addition to a shortage of syringes. In May and June, there were no tuberculosis vaccine stocks or syringes, resulting in a considerable drop in immunization coverage. In mid-July, 72,000 doses of tuberculosis vaccine were delivered out of a total of 128,000; the remaining doses were to be released following quality control tests. Since the end of May, 741 cases of measles, 522 cases of tuberculosis, 26 cases of whooping cough and 12 cases of polio were reported. Nineteen immunization centres have been established in the past three months.

Water and sanitation

72. As at 31 July, supplies for the water and sanitation sector valued at $52.4 million had arrived in the three northern governorates since the start of the programme, of which an amount worth $46.5 million (88.7 per cent) had been installed at sites or delivered to end-users. During the reporting period a total of $3.5 million worth of supplies for this sector arrived, and supplies worth $6.7 million were installed or delivered. The focus of activity in this sector has been to improve the quantity and quality of water in urban areas through the regular maintenance of existing treatment sites and pipe networks and through the introduction of new facilities in rural areas for improving sanitation and access to clean water. WHO, in collaboration with UNICEF, monitors levels of water contamination.

73. UNICEF conducted a survey of water projects covering all villages in the northern governorates of Dahuk, Arbil and Sulaymaniyah, which identified 351 villages requiring water to be supplied through tankers, 638 villages requiring rehabilitation to improve water supply systems and 172 bore wells in various locations to increase the sources of safe drinking water. A total of 200 water tankers were hired to shuttle 2 million litres of safe drinking water to 60,000 people daily.

74. Sixty-one water pumps have been replaced in the past three months. Repairs and extensions of over 194 kilometres of pipes were completed, including 44 kilometres during the same period. A total of 38 generators and/or transformers were installed as back-up power supply for pumping stations. In addition 145 pump and chlorinator houses were repaired and rehabilitated, benefiting more than 500,000 people, and eight stores and water treatment plants were renovated. UNICEF completed 438 of the planned 780 rural water projects under phases I to III, which increased safe water coverage from 60 to 75 per cent for the rural population, with 50 litres per capita. In rural areas, 2,873 household and 62 community latrines of the planned 5,273 household and 75 community latrines were completed. A total of 22 sanitation vehicles were supplied during the reporting period. This additional sanitation fleet has strengthened the capacity of the local authorities to handle 620 tons of solid and liquid waste a day. A total of 7.77 kilometres of sewage channels were constructed during this period.

75. Out of 414 chlorinators, 363 were installed at water production sites, serving nearly 800,000 people in urban and semi-urban areas. Their installation increased the monthly use of chlorine to 35 tons. A total of 380 tons of chlorine and 1,120 tons of alum sulphate were provided to improve water quality. A stock balance of 252 tons of chlorine remained at the water authority warehouse. WHO reported that the proportion of contaminated water samples collected from April to June 1999 in urban areas dropped to 13 per cent from 28 per cent during the same period in 1998. However, according to a recent report from UNICEF, it was observed that in June the incidence of bacteriological contamination was estimated at 28 per cent and 37 per cent of tested samples for urban and semi-urban areas respectively. This corresponds to the high incidence of water-borne diseases reported, such as typhoid. As at 31 July, 10 WHO applications for water quality monitoring items were on hold.

Agriculture

76. As at 31 July, agricultural supplies valued at $81.4 million had arrived since the start of the programme, of which an amount worth $66.2 million (81.3 per cent) had been installed at sites or delivered to end-users. A total of $6.4 million worth of supplies for this sector arrived during the reporting period, and supplies worth $6.8 million were installed or delivered. The focus of activity has been to provide a range of agricultural inputs, including spare parts and machinery, pumps, seeds and fertilizers, to conduct plant protection and animal health campaigns, to implement an afforestation programme, to rehabilitate poultry production facilities and to revive the agricultural service infrastructure.

77. The effects of the drought on cereal production have been as severe in the three northern governorates as in the centre and south. The cultivated areas and yields for wheat and barley decreased by 16 and 68 per cent respectively. Retail prices for wheat increased by 3.2 per cent and for barley by 42.6 per cent. The scarcity of animal fodder forced price increases for straw and hay from $5.20 to $42.40 per hectare and from $10.60 to $53 per ton, respectively. The migration of animals to mountainous areas increased from the seasonal average of 30 per cent to the current 75 per cent. This, combined with the influx of over 1 million head of cattle to the Dahuk and Erbil governorates from the centre and south, is causing serious concern, especially with regard to long-term environmental consequences. FAO has taken a number of remedial measures to address some of the effects of the drought. It is also preparing a mechanism for the procurement of local wheat and barley seeds for distribution to farmers most affected by the drought.

78. The spread of foot-and-mouth disease was sporadic in the north in comparison with the centre and south. However, the incidence of infection continued to increase during the reporting period. Two thousand doses of foot-and-mouth disease vaccine under phase IV were received, allowing the vaccination of about half a million sheep and goats and 24,000 head of cattle in 843 villages, benefiting 7,000 farmers. However, those amounts were inadequate for the full control of the disease in view of the considerable influx of livestock from centre and south. According to FAO, to control the outbreak 4.5 million doses of vaccine for sheep and goats and 420,000 doses for cattle are required.

Electricity

79. As at 31 July, electrical equipment valued at $26 million had arrived in the three northern governorates since the start of the programme, of which an amount worth $19.6 million (75.3 per cent) had been distributed to installation sites. Also, contractual services worth $3.9 million have been provided. During the reporting period a total of $2 million worth of supplies arrived for this sector, and supplies worth $1.8 million were distributed or installed. The focus of activity has been to arrest the deterioration in the distribution and transmission networks, as well as to rehabilitate the two hydropower plants at the Dokan and Derbandikhan dams and emergency power generation for Erbil township.

80. Record low water levels at the Dokan and Derbandikhan dams have reduced power generation to 42 and 25 per cent of the annual average respectively. The Dahuk governorate, which is connected to the national grid, received less than 20 per cent of actual demand. In the Erbil and Sulaymaniyah governorates, four to six amperes of electricity have been available to consumers for four to five hours a day, while in Dahuk supply has been limited at times to two hours a day.

81. As immediate relief from the shortage of electricity due to the drought, 224 diesel generators with a total combined capacity of 15.6 megawatts are expected to arrive in September 1999. These will be installed in each governorate to provide power for essential services. Three 20-megawatt diesel power plants will be constructed in each of the three governorates to cover basic services. In addition to assurances provided in the phase V and VI distribution plans, further guarantees have been sought from the Government to provide an uninterrupted flow of the required quantity of fuel for those plants.

Education

82. As at 31 July, education supplies valued at $31.8 million had arrived in the three northern governorates since the start of the programme, of which an amount worth $25.4 million (63.6 per cent) was delivered to schools and printing presses. A total of $2.4 million worth of supplies for this sector arrived during the reporting period, and supplies and funds worth $5.9 million were delivered or disbursed. The focus of activity has been the rehabilitation of primary and secondary schools, the building of a limited number of new schools and the provision of desks and other educational supplies, support for teacher training centres, assistance to expanding printing press facilities and support for tertiary education.

83. Most warehouse stocks of education supplies were distributed before the end of the school year in June, and the balance will be delivered during the new school year, which commences in September. UNICEF has rehabilitated a total of 179 schools and institutions since the start of the programme, of which 32 were completed during the period under review. UNESCO rehabilitated or constructed a total of 134 schools, of which 41 were completed during the same period. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) completed work on 48 schools. The increase in enrolment observed in the previous period continued during the reporting period. According to local authorities, enrolment rates in some schools have increased by 20 per cent. The first-grade enrolment figure for the 1999-2000 school year is estimated at 134,407 pupils.

Rehabilitation of settlements

84. As at 31 July, supplies and funds for the settlement rehabilitation sector valued at $44.4 million had arrived in the three northern governorates, of which $28.2 million (63.6 per cent) were utilized or disbursed. A total of $2.4 million worth of supplies for this sector arrived during the reporting period, and supplies and funds worth $5.9 million were utilized or disbursed. The focus of activity has been to rehabilitate housing, infrastructure and community services in urban, semi-urban and rural areas to encourage the voluntary or assisted return of internally displaced persons and to enable them to settle on a permanent basis.

85. During the reporting period completed projects included 48 schools, 10 health clinics, 12 road projects, 1 bridge, 861 housing units and 59 other services. In collective towns and urban areas, Habitat has initiated 50 water distribution projects benefiting 650,000 inhabitants and 35 sewage channels that have improved the living conditions of approximately 355,000 people. Ten thousand internally displaced persons without the means of returning to their place of origin have been provided with housing units in semi-urban areas.

86. Within the framework of phases V and VI, a special focus is being given to complement present and past projects through the provision of income-generating activities, strengthened community participation and increased service support at the district level, in order to ensure a continued impact of the programme. The main composition of programme categories is 25 per cent for rural village resettlement, 35 per cent for infrastructure rehabilitation of rural communities and district and sub-district growth centres, 30 per cent for rehabilitation of collective towns and urban/semi-urban areas and 10 per cent to direct housing and service provision for internally displaced persons in new locations.

Mine clearance

87. As at 31 July, supplies and funds for the mine clearance programme valued at $18.7 million had arrived or been contracted for in the three northern governorates since the start of the programme, of which $12.5 million has been utilized or distributed. The focus of activity has been to identify minefields; train local deminers, field survey teams and prosthetic centre staff; carry out mine-clearing operations; and provide support to mine victims.

88. The United Nations Office for Project Services reported a large reduction in minefield clearance costs, from $19 per square metre to $3, during the period under review, as well as an increase in the rate of clearance owing to greater staff experience and better use of dog teams. The latter has helped to achieve a considerable reduction in the resources needed for the identification and clearance of minefield areas. Since the start of the programme, 11 of the 19 demining teams have been localized.

89. During the reporting period, level-one survey teams, responsible for identifying mined areas, surveyed 148,657,125 square metres of minefields out of the cumulative total of 301,999,294 square metres since the start of the programme. In total, some 58 per cent of the region has now been surveyed. Level-two survey teams, responsible for marking and mapping minefields, surveyed 124,779 square metres of minefields out of the cumulative total of 1,152,998 square metres. Some 575 new minefields were found during the same period, bringing the total number of new minefields found since the beginning of the programme to 2,662. In addition, 480,779 square metres of land was cleared of mines and returned to civilian use from the cumulative total of 1,239,248 square metres since the start of the programme. Some 155 mine victims were fitted with new prostheses, 518 were provided with physiotherapy treatment, 132 received prosthesis maintenance and 72 received walking aids. A third prosthetics centre was established at Dahuk. Much-needed focal points have now been established within the local administrative structures to act as operational counterparts of the United Nations Office for Project Services.

90. During the last 90 days, two minefields have been completely cleared and formally handed back to the owners, bringing the total to 10 since the start of the programme. These minefields had denied access to prime agricultural land previously used for cultivation and grazing. Typically, the use of areas around minefields - generally 10 to 20 per cent of the total minefield area - is also denied because of fear and suspicions among the population regarding the existence of mines. Inhabitants of 21 villages now have a safer environment and benefit economically owing to their ability to use the property and the elimination of animal loss due to mines. In addition, since three of the minefields cleared are located close to popular recreational sites, the benefits of mine clearance have been extended beyond the local inhabitants. During the reporting period, the Office for Project Services also cleared access roads to benefit six villages, including one that Habitat is now restoring, as well as destroying large quantities of unexploded ordnance located close to a refugee camp and two villages. Over the period covered by the programme, the Office for Project Services has also provided safe access for UNDP to about 80 kilometres of power lines for repair.

V. OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

91. In resolution 1153 (1998), the Security Council endorsed the recommendations contained in my supplementary report (S/1998/90) and authorized a revenue target of up to $5.256 billion during a given period of 180 days which, after deductions pursuant to paragraph 8 of resolution 986 (1995), would provide $3.436 billion required for the implementation of the enhanced humanitarian programme. It may be recalled that at the time I made those recommendations I had not included the $300 million authorized subsequently by the Council in resolution 1175 (1998) for the purchase of oil spare parts and equipment.

92. The revenue targets for phases IV and V of the humanitarian programme, however, could not be achieved because of the substantial fall in oil prices and, accordingly, the enhanced humanitarian programme as endorsed by the Council could not be fully implemented. During phases IV and V, the total revenues available for the implementation of the humanitarian programme, after deductions pursuant to paragraph 8 of resolution 986 (1995) and deductions for the purchase of oil spare parts and equipment as well as for pipeline fees, were $1.651 and $2.198 billion, respectively. Accordingly, there was indeed a shortfall of $3.1 billion in the total revenues authorized for the humanitarian programme under phases IV and V.

93. It is therefore necessary to bear those factors in mind in welcoming the current positive developments with regard to the increased revenues available to the programme during the present phase. By the end of the current 180-day period (21 November 1999), if oil prices remain at the present level, the total revenue projected for the whole 180-day period would exceed the target of $5.256 billion authorized in resolution 1242 (1999) and would reach $6.3 billion which, after all the necessary deductions mentioned above, would make $3.97 billion available for the implementation of the humanitarian programme.

94. The current distribution plan, which was approved on 11 June 1999 is budgeted at $3.004 billion, including $300 million for oil spare parts and equipment (see S/1999/671). Accordingly, in anticipation of the Council's review of this matter pursuant to resolution 1242 (1999), the Government of Iraq has been invited to submit, taking into account the sectoral priorities set forth by the Council in resolution 1153 (1995) and successive resolutions, proposals for the utilization of the additional revenue for my consideration and recommendations thereon to the Council. It may be recalled that the Government of Iraq had already indicated in the distribution plan for phase VI that if oil revenues generated during phase VI were likely to exceed the total of the $3.004 billion required for the implementation of the approved distribution plan, the Government intended to enter into additional contracts for spare parts and equipment up to the value of $300 million (S/1999/671, annex II, enclosure). Any additional amount requested for the purchase of oil spare parts and equipment would require authorization by the Council.

95. In my letter dated 2 July 1999 to the President of the Security Council (S/1999/746 and Add.1), I provided the latest information on the current status of Iraq's oil industry, which continues to be in a lamentable state, despite the current increased production and export of oil. I should like to point out that the total value of applications placed on hold ($83.1 million) under phase V exceeds the total value of applications approved ($77.1 million). I therefore wish to reiterate my appeal to the Council to request the Security Council Committee to proceed expeditiously in its consideration and approval of applications for oil spare parts and equipment submitted under phases IV, V and VI, and to review further all applications placed on hold.

96. I should like to appeal to the Security Council to resolve the difficulties encountered with regard to the appointment of additional oil overseers. I should also like to appeal to the members of the Security Council Committee to reach an agreement on the proposal submitted by the Office of the Iraq Programme, on 11 February 1999, to address the difficulties created by the existing system of reimbursement from the ESC (13 per cent) account to the ESB (53 per cent) account. In terms of the amounts to be reimbursed for food only, as at 31 July 1999, pending delivery of the supplies to WFP for the three governorates in the north, $157 million had not been transferred from the 13 per cent account to the 53 per cent account under phases II to V.

97. I should like to request the Government of Iraq to take urgently all necessary measures to ensure a safe working environment at the Mina al-Bakr oil-loading platform.

98. Both the drought and the foot-and-mouth epidemic have weighed heavily on Iraq during the reporting period. I am satisfied that the measures taken by the United Nations agencies and programmes, particularly the allocation of $120 million for specific drought relief measures, will help alleviate the worst effects in the three northern governorates despite the influx of livestock from the centre and south of Iraq which has exacerbated the situation there. I regret that the relatively limited measures taken by the Government of Iraq to combat these challenges in the 15 governorates have been further hampered by the holds placed on several drought-related applications by members of the Security Council Committee. I therefore appeal to the Security Council Committee to

review further the drought-related applications placed on hold and expedite their approval. I also recommend to the Government of Iraq to approve the proposal by FAO to conduct a rapid country-wide field assessment survey of the effects of the drought.

99. I welcome the initiatives taken by WFP and the Government of Iraq to ensure a mechanism for more timely and equitable distribution of food to the three northern governorates. While the Government's commitment to documenting food quality addresses one aspect of the problem, the more fundamental issue of the quality of the food basket can be resolved only when the Government takes effective steps to procure better quality commodities through more reliable and reputable contractors. It is recommended that a similar effort be made by the Government in the selection of all its contractors.

100. I welcome the Government's agreement to cooperate fully with the United Nations in reviewing the inventory of supplies and equipment in government warehouses, provided under resolution 986 (1995). I also welcome the Government's positive response to the request made by the United Nations to increase the number of escorts and vehicles provided for observation activities in the education sector. This will significantly improve the ability of the United Nations to observe the utilization of inputs imported under the programme.

101. There has been a significant increase in the number of holds being placed on applications, with serious implications for the implementation of the humanitarian programme. As at 13 August 1999, the total number of applications circulated under phases I to VI that have been placed on hold is 475, valued at a total amount of about $500 million. It is recommended that an all-out effort be made to review further all the holds concerned and expedite the approval of applications in order to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the programme. The Office of the Iraq Programme will continue to assist the Security Council Committee and provide any additional information required by the Committee.

102. Notwithstanding the fact that resolution 986 (1995) was never intended to meet all the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people, I remain confident that the programme continues to provide essential support in the current situation. Since the start of the programme, Iraq has received more than 11 million tons of food worth about $3.8 billion, with over $600 million worth of supplies on the way. Overall, the Government has distributed these supplies efficiently to registered beneficiaries. Medical supplies and equipment valued at about $665 million have arrived to support the public health care system, and about $200 million worth of additional supplies and equipment are expected to arrive soon. The water and sanitation sector has received inputs worth about $72 million, with over $75 million on order. In agriculture, supplies and equipment worth more than $176 million have arrived, with about $176 million worth of additional supplies expected to arrive soon.

103. I wish to reiterate my continuing concern for the suffering of the Iraqi people, including the high level of child and maternal mortality throughout the country, as reflected in the recent child and maternal mortality survey (July 1999) conducted by UNICEF and the Government of Iraq. I remain convinced

that more can be done under resolution 986 (1995) to address the unacceptably high levels of child and maternal mortality, particularly in the south and centre of Iraq, through expedited implementation of targeted nutrition programmes and expeditious approval by the Security Council Committee of applications in water and sanitation and other key sectors such as health, which have a direct bearing on the unacceptably high malnutrition levels. I fully support the recommendation of UNICEF that the Government of Iraq and the Security Council Committee should give priority to contracts for supplies that will have a direct impact on the well-being of children. I therefore wish to reiterate my request, as also recommended by UNICEF, that the Government of Iraq should urgently expedite the implementation of the targeted nutrition programmes in the 15 governorates in the centre and south of Iraq, provided for in distribution plans IV, V and VI, by contracting the supplies necessary for the implementation of the programmes. In the light of the findings of the above-mentioned survey, I also recommend to the Government of Iraq to increase the funding level for such programmes so as to bring about expeditiously the improvements in the nutritional status of children. Targeted nutrition programmes are being implemented by the United Nations in the three northern governorates. Together with other inputs into such sectors as health and water and sanitation, the targeted feeding programmes are having a considerable effect on the nutritional status of children in the north and have helped to bring about a notable decline in acute malnutrition, thus lowering infant mortality rates.

104. In a humanitarian programme of such magnitude and complexity, there will inevitably be a range of policy and operational difficulties. Few of them are the sole responsibility of any one party to resolve. I therefore appeal to all concerned to fulfil their mutual obligations in the management of a programme whose success is so vital to the well-being of the Iraqi people.

Annex I

Status of the United Nations accounts pertaining to the Iraq Programme

1. As at 31 July 1999, of the $5.2 billion authorized under resolution 1242 (1999), $897.1 million had been deposited into the account for phase VI, bringing the total oil sale since inception to $14,230.9 million.

2. The allocation of total oil proceeds received from inception to date and the corresponding expenditures are as follows:

(a) $7,169.4 million has been allocated for the purchase of humanitarian supplies by the Government of Iraq, as specified in paragraph 8 (a) of resolution 986 (1995). Also, $158.3 million of interest earned in this account was utilized for the purchase of humanitarian supplies in the central and southern governorates of Iraq. In addition, an amount of $349.5 million was due for the reimbursement for bulk purchases made by the Government of Iraq for northern Iraq and distributed by the United Nations Inter-Agency Humanitarian Programme. Letters of credit issued by the Banque nationale de Paris on behalf of the United Nations for the payment of those supplies for the whole of Iraq amounted to $6,639.6 million under phases I to VI;

(b) $1,748.8 million has been allocated for the purchase of humanitarian goods to be distributed in the three northern governorates by the United Nations Inter-Agency Humanitarian Programme, as specified in paragraph 8 (b) of Security Council resolution 986 (1995) and revised in paragraph 2 of Council resolution 1153 (1998). Expenditures recorded for humanitarian goods approved by the Security Council Committee amounted to $1,023.1 million;

(c) $4,266.3 million has been transferred directly into the United Nations Compensation Fund, as specified in paragraph 8 (c) of resolution 986 (1995). As at 31 July a total of $125.4 million had been allotted to cover the operating expenditures of the Compensation Commission and an amount of $3,739.8 million had been allotted for payment of instalments of "A" and "C" claims;

(d) $298.0 million has been allocated for the operational and administrative expenses of the United Nations associated with the implementation of resolution 986 (1995), as specified in paragraph 8 (d) of the resolution. Expenditures for administrative costs for all United Nations entities involved in implementing the resolution amounted to $195.9 million;

(e) $101.0 million has been allocated to the United Nations Special Commission for the disarmament of Iraq for its operating expenses, as specified in paragraph 8 (e) of resolution 986 (1995). Expenditures for the Commission amounted to $59.7 million;

(f) $537.9 million has been set aside for the costs of transporting petroleum and petroleum products originating in Iraq exported via the Kirkuk-Yumurtalik pipeline through Turkey, in accordance with paragraph 8 (f) of resolution 986 (1995) and in line with procedures adopted by the Security

Council Committee. Of that amount, $470.4 million has been paid to the Government of Turkey;

(g) $109.5 million has been transferred directly to the escrow account established pursuant to resolutions 706 (1991) of 15 August 1991 and 712 (1991) of 19 September 1991 for the repayments envisaged under paragraph 6 of resolution 778 (1992) of 2 October 1992, as specified in paragraph 8 (g) of resolution 986 (1995) and subsequently in paragraph 34 of my report dated 25 November 1996 (S/1996/978). The total of repayments amounted to $99.5 million.

Annex II

Oil proceeds and humanitarian supply letters of credit as at 31 July 1999

Oil proceeds

		Letters of credit	
Phase	Last deposit	Number	Value (United States dollars)
I	27 June 1998	123	2 149 806 395.99
II	2 January 1998	130	2 124 569 788.26
III	30 June 1998	186	2 085 326 345.25
IV	28 December 1998	280	3 027 147 422.35
V	25 June 1999	333	3 947 022 565.12
VI (current)	As at 31 July 1999	136	897 053 595.89
Total		1 188	14 230 926 112.86

Humanitarian supply letters of credit for ESB (53 per cent) account and bulk procurement

	Letters of credit opened		
Phase	Number	Value (United States dollars)	Bank payments made on delivery (United States dollars)
I	867	1 229 078 786.69	1 210 185 162.90
II	531	1 197 759 389.19	1 154 365 486.45
III	667	1 208 369 642.37	1 088 259 894.41
IV Humanitarian supplies	652	1 470 309 252.55	1 070 955 720.99
Oil spare parts	422	242 072 384.13	57 470 642.66
V Humanitarian supplies	616	1 241 538 346.75	293 631 771.20
Oil spare parts	154	50 445 485.52	-
VI (current)	-	-	-
Total	3 909	6 639 573 287.20	4 874 868 678.61

Annex III

Status of applications as at 15 August 1999

ESB 53 per cent account	Phase IV		Phase V		Phase VI	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
Humanitarian supplies						
Received	982	$1 619 162 077	1 163	$2 146 967 063	125	$606 945 080
Circulated	704	$1 598 757 327	967	$1 698 483 403	16	$150 865 733
Approved	678	$1 542 873 598	773	$1 380 482 040	9	$124 770 231
Hold	26	$55 883 729	174	$297 508 166	5	$8 245 502
Pending	0	$0	20	$20 493 197	2	$17 850 000
Null and void	252	$0	17	$0	0	$0
Oil spares						
Received	570	$298 276 784	518	$260 105 403	1	$1 962 040
Circulated	528	$285 131 000	408	$170 112 919	0	$0
Approved	431	$243 420 737	222	$77 056 913	0	$0
Hold	96	$40 995 263	166	$83 063 006	0	$0
Pending	1	$715 000	20	$9 993 000	0	$0
Null and void	28	$0	6	$0	0	$0

ESC 13 per cent account	Phase IV		Phase V		Phase VI	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
Received	469	$76 840 360	301	$78 607 103	9	$8 556 951
Circulated	450	$76 838 971	296	$78 439 577	9	$8 556 951
Approved	440	$76 333 509	292	$77 582 337	0	$0
Hold	10	$505 462	4	$857 240	0	$0
Pending	0	$0	0	$0	9	$8 556 951
Null and void	13	$0	3	$0	0	$0

Note: The remaining uncirculated applications include 71 applications valued at $118,415,194 in phase V and 93 applications valued at $464,396,492 in phase VI that could not be circulated pending the Committee's instruction to the Secretariat on payment mechanisms from the United Nations Iraq account.

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/896/Corr.1
30 August 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 6 OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1242 (1999)

Corrigendum

Paragraph 93, last line

For $3.97 billion read $3.77 billion

Annex II, table entitled "Oil proceeds", second column, first line

For 27 June 1998 read 27 June 1997

99-24918 (E) 300899

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/1999/897
20 August 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 16 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, and with reference to the report from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on the work of the special team for Iraq (TM-1-99), transmitted to you by the letter of the Secretary-General dated 5 August 1999, I should like to make the following comments:

1. In paragraphs 39, 41, 59 and 68 of annex B, which includes an inventory of the materials discovered by the team in the two Special Commission laboratories in the Baghdad Monitoring and Verification Centre, there is a reference to five bottles described as "Iraq GD - hexane", namely, a toxic agent. This reference gives rise to many questions, in view of the fact that Iraq has never produced that agent (GD), and never submitted any samples of it to the Special Commission. Questions must therefore be asked as to where those five bottles came from and why they were brought to Iraq.

2. In subparagraph (d) of paragraph 5.5 on page 9 of the report, there is a reference to the proposal made by the team that the seven comparison samples of the VX nerve agent should be kept in a container designed to ensure the secure transportation of the dangerous materials, such as explosives, that were found in the laboratory. This reference implies that there were explosives in the Special Commission wing of the Baghdad Monitoring and Verification Centre, a fact denied by Richard Butler, the former Executive Chairman of the Special Commission.

3. We believe that the comparison samples of the VX nerve agent were used, not in order to test the equipment, but rather, in order to contaminate remnants of Iraqi warheads. The special team did not confirm or deny the possibility of their having been used for purposes other than testing.

4. It is now clear that the operation to destroy the agents found in the two Special Commission laboratories were not carried out because of the existence of any danger to those working in the Canal Hotel or anyone else, but only with a view to recovering equipment used for espionage, and getting rid of, inter alia, proof of the illegitimate activities of the Special Commission, both with regard

to the use of chemical agents for purposes of contamination, and of the explosive materials and documents that provided proof of such illegitimate activities. The clearest proof of this fact is the opposition of the United States of America and the United Kingdom to any suggestion in the Security Council that the VX samples should be analysed in order to settle the matter from the technical and operational points of view.

Here we wish to reaffirm the demand made by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq, in his letter addressed to the Secretary-General dated 28 July 1999 (S/1999/831) for a comprehensive inventory of all items at the Special Commission's premises in Baghdad to be made by a neutral, professional team, with the participation of diplomats representing the members of the Security Council, in order to determine all the facts concerning the contents of those premises.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
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S/1999/898
20 August 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 19 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On the instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of the communication of 14 August 1999 from the Minister for Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the ambassadors of the States permanent members of the Security Council and of the States members of the European Union concerning the tragic events that the Rwandan-Ugandan coalition has caused and continues to cause within Congolese territory.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) André MWAMBA KAPANGA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Communication of 14 August 1999 from the Minister for Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, the ambassadors of the States permanent members of the Security Council and the ambassadors of the States members of the European Union (represented by Portugal)

The Government of National Salvation, through the Ministry of Human Rights, wishes to thank you for responding to its invitation.

The purpose of the Government's communication today is to alert you once again to the heinous aggression being perpetrated against our country, involving egregious human rights violations and the whole spectrum of humanitarian disasters: massacres, deportations, abductions, waves of displaced persons, war victims, refugees and persons at risk and destruction of the environment.

In particular, we wish to call your attention to the tragic events that continue to occur in the provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo occupied by the aggressor countries. The international community, of which you represent a significant portion, has a responsibility to involve itself more deeply in peacemaking in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Early this year, we drew your attention to the effects of the war of aggression being waged against the Democratic Republic of the Congo by Rwanda, Uganda and Burundi. We stressed heavily the urgent need for appropriate measures not only to aid the Congolese people to recover their sovereignty and territorial integrity, but also to put an end to the serious, massive violations of human rights to which some of our people have fallen victim.

Since then, some limited progress has been made, including the adoption of Security Council resolution 1234 (1999) of 9 April 1999 and the signing in Lusaka on 10 July 1999 of the Agreement on a Ceasefire in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Two rebel factions continue to kill each other in an attempt to win legitimacy, deliberately delaying the formal signing of the Ceasefire Agreement. There is no doubt that this grim, distressing spectacle is being orchestrated by Rwanda and Uganda, the sponsors of the so-called Congolese rebels.

To quote Aldo Ajelo, Special Representative of the European Union for the Great Lakes Region, it is incomprehensible that the entire international community should be held hostage for the sake of a signature.

Beyond the issue of signatures, which actually masks the avowed and unavowed interests of the aggressor countries and their Congolese accomplices, the Congolese population continues to suffer the horrors of war: the city of Kisangani is a prey to sporadic clashes between Ugandans and Rwandans, yet the international bodies responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security have done absolutely nothing to denounce or condemn this situation.

On around 28 July 1999, 41 Congolese men, women and children were burned alive by Tutsi elements in Kasala, Katanga province. This barbarous, heinous crime was the latest in a succession of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in the occupied eastern territories of the country, particularly in Kasika, Makobola, Mwenga and Kamituga. These massacres, which are public knowledge and are clearly mentioned in our white paper have not been investigated by either the United Nations or non-governmental human rights organizations.

While the Congolese people and the Government of National Salvation are pursuing peace with neighbouring countries without exception, as well as national reconstruction among Congolese, the Rwandan, Ugandan and Burundian aggressors are obstinately pursuing their bellicose, irredentist policy, at the risk of jeopardizing the gains embodied in the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement.

In signing the Sirte Peace Agreement of 18 April 1999 and the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, President Laurent Désiré Kabila demonstrated the Congolese people's desire for peace.

That people, like any other peace- and justice-loving people, is entitled to expect more help from the international community in putting an end to the war and halting the massive human rights violations, so that it can achieve the objectives of the country's reconstruction.

We can never say it enough: war is the worst negation of human rights. It cannot, in any circumstances contribute to development or to greater collective well-being. The best way to preserve development and to protect the economic, social and cultural rights of the Congolese people in the same way as their civil and political rights, as Mary Robinson, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, recalled only recently at the latest session of the Economic and Social Council in Geneva, is to press for a halt to the fighting and an end to the war.

For we cannot hope to protect the war's victims, namely, refugees and displaced and vulnerable persons, if we do not remove the cause, namely, the war of aggression. The Congolese people are not convinced that the United Nations Security Council, the principal organ for the maintenance of international peace and security, is doing all it can to bring peace to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Yet all that is needed for a change to occur is for the members of the Council, particularly the permanent members, to acknowledge what is happening.

Surely the Congolese people, who have suffered the ravages of one war after another, deserve peace? What are you waiting for to condemn the events in Kisangani and the massive human rights violations against peaceful Congolese citizens, especially the massacre in Kasala? What is the Security Council waiting for to implement its resolution 1234 (1999) and to permit the implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, if need be by invoking Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations?

The Security Council has the power to take such action as it deems appropriate to deal with a threat to the peace or a breach of the peace.

In its resolution 1234 (1999), the Security Council called for an end to the presence of uninvited forces in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and for immediate steps to be taken to that end. Thus far, no steps appear to have been taken towards a withdrawal. On the contrary, the aggressor forces have their sights set on further conquests of territory.

The Council reaffirmed its readiness to consider the active involvement of the United Nations, in coordination with the Organization of African Unity (OAU), including through concrete, sustainable and effective measures to assist in the implementation of an effective ceasefire agreement and in an agreed process for peaceful settlement of the conflict (paragraph 15).

What is the Council waiting for to take these measures? It continues to make the deployment of an international force contingent on the actual cessation of hostilities. In other words, it will not intervene in the mess in the Congo until the Ugandans and Rwandans have ceased hostilities. How ironic! Is it not the Council's mandate to enforce the peace, including by coercive measures?

Moreover, the contracting parties to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement acknowledge that the Security Council has the prerogative to do so. In any event, the Council has the power to take a decision in this respect of its own accord. Article III, paragraph 11 (a) of the Lusaka Agreement specifies that "The United Nations Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the UN Charter and in collaboration with the OAU, shall be requested to constitute, facilitate and deploy an appropriate peacekeeping force in the DRC to ensure implementation of this Agreement; and taking into account the peculiar situation of the DRC, mandate the peacekeeping force to track down all armed groups in the DRC. In this respect, the UN Security Council shall provide the requisite mandate for the peacekeeping force".

The overcautiousness, indeed the guilty complicity, exhibited by the Security Council is in contrast with its primary mission and with the magnitude of the problems to be resolved in the Congolese provinces affected by the war. The Congolese people will judge the United Nations in the light of its ability to ensure respect for its founding Charter by putting an end to the armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which is a source of massive human rights violations.

In our communication of 13 January 1999, we called upon the European Union, through the ambassadors of its member States accredited in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to condemn unequivocally the aggression against our country, and also the serious and massive human rights violations committed by the Rwandan, Ugandan and Burundian aggressors. We are convinced that the European Union, which includes two permanent members of the Security Council and maintains substantial multilateral cooperation with African States in the context of the Lomé Convention, can and must make its contribution to the settlement of the armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

There is no need to recall the attachment of the States members of the European Union to the principles of freedom, democracy and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the state ruled by law (see the preamble to the Treaty on the European Union, signed at Maastricht on 7 February 1972).

In the context of cooperation between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States, particularly emphasis is placed on attachment to dignity and human rights, which constitute legitimate aspirations of individuals and peoples.

The Lomé IV Convention (as revised by the Mauritius agreement of 4 November 1995) notes in article 5, paragraph 1, that development policy and cooperation are closely linked to respect for and enjoyment of human freedoms and fundamental rights.

On the basis of these principles, the European Union is entitled to bring sustained pressure to bear on the aggressors and their Congolese accomplices to respect the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement and the lawful rights of the Congolese population to live in peace and not to be subjected to maltreatment.

Failing that, the European Union is at liberty to suspend its cooperation with the aggressor countries in accordance with article 366 bis of the Lomé Convention.

The States members of the OAU could also make a useful contribution to the restoration of peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo by ensuring respect for the fundamental principles of its founding charter, making use in particular of the new conflict prevention, management and settlement mechanism.

We take this opportunity to protest against the slowness with which the communication we submitted to the African Commission of Human and People's Rights is being handled. After holding its two most recent sessions in Bujumbura, the Commission is planning to meet in Kigali in November this year. The choice of these two capitals is far from having been made by chance, at a time when the Commission has before it a complaint by the Democratic Republic of the Congo against Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi. We appeal to the current Chairman and the Secretary-General of OAU, through the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Kinshasa, to ensure respect for the Commission's impartiality.

On the eve of the third millennium, the Congolese people is entitled to count on the decisive support of the international community to help it restore peace and put an end to the serious and massive human rights violations by the aggressors and their Congolese accomplices.

We endorse the hymn to peace of Martin Luther King (the only revolution, 1967), who said he had a dream that one day men would rise up and understand at last that they were made to live together as brothers, that one day there should be no more war, that men should beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks, that nation should not lift up a sword against nation, neither should they learn war any more.

Consequently, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, through the Ministry of Human Rights, calls on the United Nations Security Council, the European Union and the Organization of African Unity to:

(a) Condemn the Kasala massacre and order that a commission of inquiry be instructed to establish the facts, identify those responsible and bring them to justice;

(b) Compel Uganda and Rwanda to halt the fighting in the territory of the Republic;

(c) Induce these two countries to sign the Lusaka Agreement;

(d) Ensure the effective application of that Agreement for purposes of the restoration of peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as a condition for reconciliation and national reconstruction.

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LETTER DATED 20 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been instructed by my Government to draw your attention to the establishment of the "customs service of Kosovo", of which the Federal Customs Administration of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has been informed by the Customs Office at Pristina. The Office exercises "customs control" and charges "customs duties" on goods imported from abroad, as well as those originating from Serbia, and issues appropriate "documents". At the same time, no customs procedure of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is applied in the area of Kosovo and Metohija and the physical integrity and property of Yugoslav customs officers are threatened. This situation has not changed with the arrival of the Secretary-General's Special Representative, Bernard Kouchner, or the deployment of international police. On the contrary, the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo has set about establishing a separate "customs service of Kosovo".

The establishment of a "customs service of Kosovo" constitutes a flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), particularly its provisions in respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Bearing that in mind, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia requests that the said "service" be disbanded, that Yugoslav customs officers be allowed to return to the border crossings to Albania and Macedonia, and that the Yugoslav customs service in Kosovo and Metohija be enabled to function undisturbed.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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